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Feature

Hey, have you finished the essay yet?

Nah, I'll do it tomorrow.

Dude, it's DUE tomorrow.

YOLO

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October 17th, 2012 ■ Issue No. 7 ■ Volume 103

THE gateway

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

U-Pass cost increase negotiations stalled

Katelyn Hoffart
STAFF REPORTER • @KATELYNHOFFART

U-Pass price negotiations between Edmonton Transit Services and the University of Alberta have yet to get the green light for students who will be using local transit systems throughout the 2013-2014 school year.

“We feel that (the survey) heavily skews the data towards people (who) use transit much more frequently than low-usage transit users.”

SAADIQ SUMAR
VICE-PRESIDENT (STUDENT LIFE), STUDENTS' UNION

The contract, launched in 2008, comes up for renewal every four years. Negotiations are handled simultaneously by ETS and the U of A's U-Pass Advisory Board — a group of students, staff and administrative members intent on reaching a common agreement on the student transit pass.

This year's U-Pass costs students \$140 per semester, but the new

proposal from ETS is seeking to raise that fee to \$171.42 per semester — a figure based on a survey ETS conducted to collect data regarding how many times students use their pass. The U-Pass Advisory Board has opposed the new proposal due to concerns with the data collection methods ETS used.

The opposition has led to discussions with city councillors who sit on the City of Edmonton's Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to bring the issue to city council and move negotiations forward.

An ETS U-Pass pilot program evaluation conducted in 2009 says the price point is generated based on ETS receiving an 84 per cent portion of the revenue the pass creates — producing 30 per cent of adult cash fare at 40 trips per month, with an assumed static student enrolment of 43,000 per term. This number of trips per month for each student was re-surveyed by ETS last year, resulting in an average range of 38-41 trips per month.

The survey was conducted on buses and LRT trains at a variety of stops and stations. Although ETS has not yet officially released their new survey data, U of A Students' Union Vice-President (Student Life)



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: TIANBO LIU

Saadiq Sumar says he was told the new numbers sat at roughly 47 trips per student, per month, which was factored into the pricing as a reason for the increase. However, the Students' Union is filing a Freedom of

Information request regarding the survey data.

“In terms of that survey specifically, we feel that it heavily skews the data towards people (who) use transit much more frequently than

low-usage transit users,” Sumar said. “You're more likely to hit people who use transit more often on the bus than people who use it less.”

PLEASE SEE **UPASS** • PAGE 5

THEATRE PREVIEW



HEATHER RICHARDS

Walterdale's *The Weir* pours a pint of stout Irish superstition

Annie Pumphrey
ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

As Halloween approaches, it brings with it haunting tales of ghostly spirits, unexplainable occurrences and the Walterdale Playhouse's eerie production of *The Weir*. Appropriate to the season's theme of “Retrospective,” *The Weir* takes a look at the significance of one's past through the perspective of rural Irish pub-goers, all the while mixing

in a healthy dose of traditional Irish superstitions and the supernatural.

Marking the opening of Walterdale Playhouse's 52nd season, *The Weir* explores the power of stories and how they connect people to the past. Written by Irish playwright Conor McPherson, the play follows five characters in a rural Irish pub as they tell folk tales, reveal the secrets of their past and yes, drink lots of beer.

“(The characters) are really caught

in the past, and part of this play is their breaking down of the barrier, or the weir, and the idea of letting healing occur,” says director Anne Marie Szucs. “If there is something traumatic that happens to you in the past, you don't really deal with it. It just sort of stays there until something lets it out.”

This is the second time Szucs has taken the reins of Walterdale's annual donor-voted show. As luck would have it, Szucs was planning

to go to Europe this past summer, and after agreeing to direct Irish play *The Weir*, she added Ireland to her itinerary. Once in Dublin, Szucs was able to do some “pub research” before delving into rehearsals of the play, even indulging herself in classic Irish beers like Guinness for the first time.

“What I felt and absorbed in Dublin was the warmth of the pubs. There was literally a pub every half a block, if not more so,” Szucs says of her trip. “What's fascinating is that each pub has its own group of regulars. It's their community.”

PLEASE SEE **WEIR** • PAGE 18

“I shit my pants again at Cameron.” **#3LF** page 12

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colophon

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U of A turns up heat on wildfire research

Matthew Hirji

NEWS STAFF • @MATTHIRJI

A partnership between the University of Alberta and government organizations has ignited hope that something can be done to reduce ferocious and costly wildfires threatening communities across Canada.

The Western Partnership for Wildland Fire Science (WPWFS) was officially announced late last month as a formal agreement between Natural Resources Canada, Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development and the University of Alberta.

This agreement will allow the involved organizations to pool their resources and collaborate with each other on research initiatives.

For Mike Flannigan, a University of Alberta professor and director of the WPWFS, the establishment of this partnership could not have come at a more appropriate time.

"(Canada's) area burned has doubled since the 1970s," Flannigan said. "I attribute that to human-caused climate change. Our climate is getting warmer, and a warmer climate generally leads to more fires."

Every year in Canada, on average, more than 8,000 fires destroy two million hectares of the country's forests.

The price of merely containing and extinguishing these fires costs fire agencies nearly \$800 million, and Flannigan says those numbers have skyrocketed in recent years.

"The bottom line is that our forest fuels are drier, which means it's easier for fires to start and spread," he explained.

"In a warmer world, we are going to see more



SUPPLIED

intense fires that are harder to put out. These changes will continue, and that means that traditional methods of fire management may not work in the future."

Despite rapidly rising economic costs and the proven dangers wildfires pose to the country, Flannigan says there are very few researchers in Canada focused on learning about how to contain and fight them.

"We want to make (the WPWFS) a centre for addressing fire problems, both from a science perspective and to help with the day-to-day operations of fire fighting," he said.

"Our fire management agencies are amongst the best in the world across Canada, but that doesn't mean they can't improve. We are looking to see if they can be even more efficient, build better tools and fight fires more effectively."

There are several initiatives that the newly

founded partnership is expected to focus on. Education, communication and outreach will allegedly come together to form a cohesive strategy designed to mitigate the effects of ferocious wildfires.

Of the three, research is going to be central to this partnership and is expected to receive additional funding. Flannigan says there are already 20 research projects underway, with a focus ranging from lightning strikes to fire behaviour.

"Most of the money is going to graduate students — which I consider to be an excellent investment," he said.

"They are tackling issues and we are training people at the same time. It's kind of a win-win situation. There could be breakthroughs that happen quickly, or it could just be another piece of the puzzle that could lead to breakthroughs in the future."

streeters

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY Katelyn Hoffart + Julianna Damer



Antonio Karam BUSINESS III

"What I procrastinated on last was probably my quiz. I didn't study for it, and how it turned out was I got 100 on it today."



Mila Gossain ARTS III

"Honestly, I'm just so perfect that I don't procrastinate. I'm very organized and it works out quite nicely."



Katanna Bogorevio ARTS IV

"I'm currently procrastinating on an art midterm project that's due on Monday, and I've got about four different projects going on right now so we'll see how that turns out."



Meagan Chiu SCIENCE IV

"I am currently procrastinating on a Classics paper due Friday. Not too sure how that's going to turn out, but I'm willing to bet I'm going to walk in right before class starts with a paper in hand."

CHECK OUT THE VIDEO AT www.thegatewayonline.ca/procrastinationstreeters



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SELENA PHILLIPS-BOYLE

U of A proposes new tuition increase of 2.15 per cent

Katelyn Hoffart

STAFF REPORTER • @KATELYNHOFFART

Students across all faculties on campus may be sending larger cheques to the University of Alberta in Sept. 2013, with the university seeking to raise tuition by 2.15 per cent.

University administration is proposing a price hike to general tuition, program and course differentials, as well as market modifiers for specific programs. The proposed increase will add approximately \$113 to domestic-based program costs for both fall and winter semesters.

The increase follows those from previous years, when tuition was raised according to the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Last year, tuition was raised by 1.45 per cent, and the year before by 0.35 per cent.

Provincial funding accounts for more than 60 per cent of the university's total operating budget. After five years of six per cent budget increases, the university was given two years of zero per cent increases from the government's grant, leaving a \$5.1 million deficit to spread out over 2011 and 2012.

When the government released its new budget in Feb. 2012, the U of A received a two per cent increase over the next three years, but since this is still not enough for the institution to break even, the proposed tuition hike for this year may help move the university towards a balanced budget.

"There's a tuition cap and it restricts the allowable tuition per

year to CPI ... that uses a metric to measure inflation," said Students' Union President Colten Yamagishi.

"The university administration for as long as I can remember has always maximized that tuition increase."

This tuition cap was implemented by the provincial government in 2006, where the cost was capped at 2004 rates which limited increases to CPI.

"The tuition cap still isn't holding them back from introducing new market modifiers and mandatory non-instructional fees like the CoSSS fee, so a lot of work still needs to be done to make sure that the tuition cap is actually capped," Yamagishi said.

"When they max out the tuition increase every year, it kind of takes it off the shoulders for the government for a lot of the funding they're providing ... For (the university), it's the easy way out (to) charge students more money."

In comparison with 15 of some of Canada's top universities, the average price of tuition at the U of A sits at \$55 below the U-15 mean of \$5,324 per term based on an Arts program.

U of A Vice-President (Operations and Finance) Phyllis Clark says she believes the proposed increases are a necessary step towards reducing the budget deficit and maintaining high standards of education at the university.

"It brings in an amount of money that we have no other way of getting, and that makes a difference

for what we have to do to support the costs of the institution. And the costs flow through into the quality of education," Clark said.

Along with the U of A president, acting provost and other staff members, Clark has been continually lobbying the provincial government and holding discussions regarding funding with Alberta's premier, the Minister of Enterprise and Advanced Education, the Minister of Finance and other key members of government.

"I think that they're also struggling with the societal balance of who should be paying what," Clark said.

"I don't think this government would step out, given that they've talked about education being the important aspect of diversification of the economy, and also just the growth of Alberta and the future of Alberta," Clark said.

The Students' Union is also concerned about the accessibility and affordability of postsecondary education in Alberta.

"I think that the students here are really mindful of the quality of education that they get and are willing to support that if they think it's justifiable — just not in the sense of voting for it," said Clark.

The motion to increase tuition will have to be brought forward to the Academic Planning Committee and Board Finance and Property Committee before being sent to the Board of Governors for final approval by the end of December this year.

selection committees to hire a new Vice-Provost and Chief Librarian and a new dean for the School of Public Health.

The selection committees will be comprised of a number of university administrative staff, students and deans.

U of A Manager (Governance Operations) Ann Hodgson sent out a call for nominations to the General Faculties Council on Oct. 4. Nomination deadlines fall on Oct. 15 for the position of dean, and Oct. 22 for the position of Vice-Provost.

The Vice-Provost selection committee will meet four times between November and February, with interviews taking place March 18-22, 2013.

SU pushes student involvement

After attempts to create an Academic Policy and Process Review Task Force received poor response, the Students' Union has taken a new route to inform students about SU committees.

SU Vice-President (Academic)

Dustin Chelen reported to Students' Council recently that he has created a web page and business cards "to centralize information on student participation in committees."

"Students interested in serving on a central university committee and representing the student voice with the SU can find out more (on the website)," Chelen's executive report reads.

The web page can be accessed at su.ualberta.ca/joinacommittee.

Province approves PAW construction

The Government of Alberta has finally approved construction of the proposed Physical Activity and Wellness (PAW) Centre.

The PAW Centre proposal has been going through administrative processes since March 2010, when it was approved through a student referendum.

Planned construction will make the PAW centre an addition to the Van Vliet Centre East Wing, and will be open to students, faculty, staff and the community.

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news briefs

COMPILED BY **April Hudson**

Native Studies offers new Master's

The Faculty of Native Studies at the University of Alberta is moving forward with a new Master's program for students aiming to achieve a Master's of Arts degree.

According to information released by the Native Studies faculty, the degree will be designed to emphasize two areas of research strength.

The first area is environmental management and ecological relationships, and the second is Canadian state forms and Indigenous peoples' approaches to social order.

The new program will be available to students for the 2013/14 school year, as long as applications are received before Feb. 1.

U of A strikes selection committees

The U of A is putting together two



WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER
17

DRINKS
8⁴⁵

SCREENING
9¹⁵

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New Writer-in-Residence brings critical eye to U of A

Alex Migdal

MULTIMEDIA EDITOR • @ALEXEM

If you're a writer who claims to never read reviews of your work, you're probably lying, says Marina Endicott, this year's Writer-in-Residence at the University of Alberta.

"I do try not to read them, but then they come to your email and it's hard to avoid them," the Canadian author says with a laugh.

"The recovery process from reading a bad review can be three weeks — it's stupid. A wise thing would be not to read them."

Thankfully, Endicott hasn't had to face much criticism, as her three novels have garnered mostly acclaim from the Canadian literary scene — her 2011 novel, *The Little Shadows*, was shortlisted for the Governor General's Award for Fiction.

Now, Endicott is turning the tables and dishing out constructive criticism to aspiring writers this year in her Writer-in-Residence position. It's her own experience with criticism that's given her the insight needed to help writers revise and perfect their manuscripts.

"I don't think there's really much place for destructive criticism. It just doesn't make sense in teaching because what you always want in teaching is to make them go back and write again," Endicott says.

"And if somebody has reached the line of despair, they're not going to jump off and write again."

Writing over and over again is exactly what Endicott suggests in order to succeed as a writer. It's no surprise, then, that the first thing you notice upon walking into her quaint office in Humanities are her multiple novels stacked elegantly on a wooden shelf — some translated into other languages — highlighting the work she's accomplished since kick-starting her literary career in 2001.



ALEX MIGDAL

In fact, Endicott says writer's block has never struck her.

"You have to go do it, you just have to. Of course, there's times the muse comes along and hits you with a rhythm stick and it's great," she says.

"But there are other times when more thinking has to be done or you have to live longer to be able to solve a problem in a scene ... There's always work you can do."

Although Endicott has managed to avoid the dreaded writing curse, she admits that writing has turned into work for her. But as she points out, that's not necessarily not a bad thing.

"I like the work of it," she says. "It feels like work in a good way. One great thing is that it doesn't feel like goofing off or self-indulgent. I think before you get to a certain level of publication and maybe a certain volume of work, one of the dangers is you can feel as if you are following some ridiculous folly you shouldn't be doing. It no longer feels like that."

Still, Endicott says her job as

Writer-in-Residence has been a welcome reprieve from the difficulties of writing her new novel, which is set to be published in a year and a half.

"It's tricky because you have to change thought worlds from your own all-consuming world of the novel to give that same attention to somebody else's world," she says. "So I try to pack appointments into two days where I don't try to think much about my work and just concentrate on other people's."

In the seven months left of her residency, Endicott hopes her impact on the U of A's literary community "sort of sneaks in under the radar" as she helps writers craft their stories — all the while giving them just the right touch of constructive criticism.

"People are shy about bringing their writing to somebody. It can be a difficult thing to open your heart and show your work to somebody, especially if you aren't used to publishing," she says.

"So courage. It's okay — you can come and see me."

University advisory board puts the brakes on planned U-Pass price hike

U-PASS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Sumar said an external company, the Mustel Group, was also hired to compile data on the pass. While the ETS survey encompassed 650 students, the external survey conducted by the Mustel Group surveyed around 2,500 students and included those in line to receive their U-Pass as well as data from online surveys.

"The web-based portion is a little bit different because ... we believe that students who have a vested interest in transit basically chose to take that survey. So the trip metric for that is a lot higher — it's actually just over 60 trips," he said.

Consumer Price Index (CPI) has guided gradual increases to the U-Pass each year, but the U-Pass Advisory Committee wants to push for a Municipal Price Index (MPI) model that would increase gradually over four years.

"CPI doesn't really take into account a lot of the things that are important when considering transit, like the cost of fuel, so MPI tends to run a little higher than CPI," Sumar said.

Ward 10 City Councillor Don Iveson is one of the councillors to whom the U-Pass Advisory Committee is bringing this issue forward.

He requested a report on the U-Pass negotiations for the

Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Agenda on Oct. 24, and is setting aside certain times for students to present.

"The students will have an opportunity to present their concerns and their position there, and city administration will be able to present ... and eventually all of council will have to weigh the argument," Iveson said.

■ "We believe that students who have a vested interest in transit basically chose to take (the web survey). So the trip metric for that is a lot higher — it's actually just over 60 trips."

DON IVESON
WARD 10 CITY COUNCILLOR

Iveson was involved in negotiating the original U-Pass, and said he wants to see a fair price negotiated for the service. He also noted the current pricing structure is based on a policy that allows the city to recover some of its revenue.

"The way the city's fare policy is

set up is we're looking to recover about 30 per cent of what we would normally recover of when someone pays fare into the cash box," he explained.

"(This means) there is a 70 per cent discount (for U of A students) already factored into the city's pricing."

The university also puts one-sixth of the U-Pass cost towards managing their travel demands as a method of reducing needs for parking and traffic congestion and encouraging the environmental benefits of commuting.

"So when the city is talking about \$170, that's the gross price. You can take one-sixth of that off for what a University of Alberta student would be paying," Iveson said.

Other U-Pass negotiations for the Spring and Summer terms have produced a contract currently undergoing final review, which Sumar hopes to sign as soon as possible, with a set price of \$140 in total for both terms.

"We want to keep in mind that students aren't the only people who are paying for the U-Pass — taxpayers are also, so we just want to make sure that it's a win-win for everybody," Sumar said.

ALSO SEE U-PASS OPINION • PAGE 10



Alumni Asked & ANSWERED

WITH

Su-Ling Goh
BSc '95, 2004 Alumni Horizon Award recipient

Current Occupation: Health Reporter, Global TV Edmonton.

What do you miss most about being a U of A student? Lunch in HUB Mall. Seriously. So many kinds of food, low prices, great people-watching!

Favourite campus memory? Dissecting the cat and shark in 2nd year Zoology class. Someone took the shark's eyeball and hid it in our friend's pencil case.

What's the one piece of advice you'd give a current U of A student? Studying is very important, but so is socializing. Find the balance. The people you meet on campus could one day be your co-workers — or your bosses!

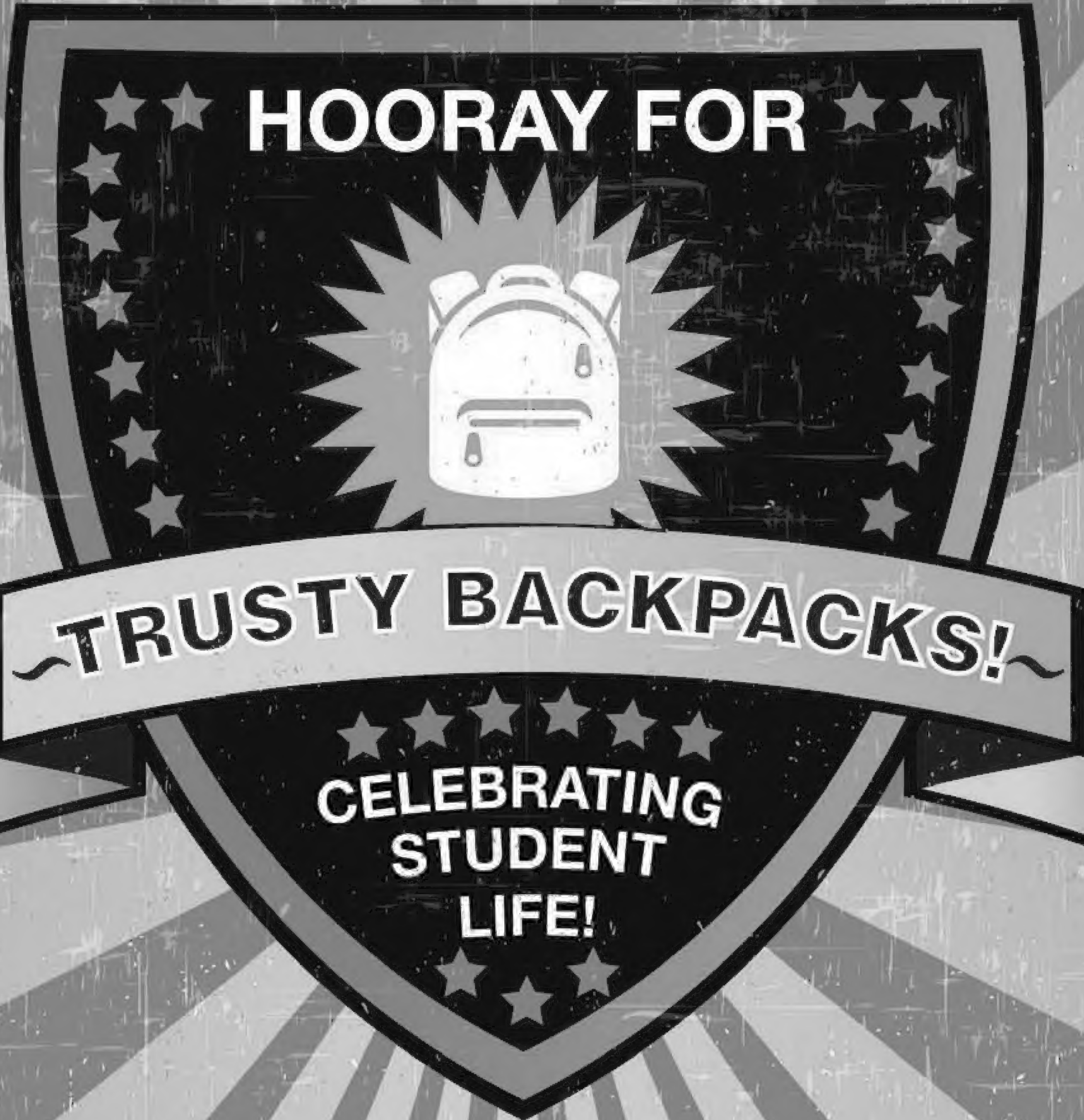
Favourite course/teacher? Parasitology. Gross in a good way!

What did you do to help you stay sane during exam time? I ate junk food and drank coffee. Not so sane.



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Librarians advocate open access

April Hudson
NEWS EDITOR • @APRIL_HUDSON

A group of campus librarians at the University of Alberta are championing open access next week in hopes of raising awareness and garnering support from students and staff for the cause.

Nicole Dalmer, an academic intern librarian who has been with the university for nine years, is co-chairing the week with head librarian Tim Klassen, and wants the event to push open access into the public eye and encourage the university and its occupants to pursue more initiatives in the field.

Open Access Week, which runs this year from Oct. 22-28, isn't the first open access event to be hosted on campus, but Dalmer says this one will have the largest number of events hosted by the University of Alberta Libraries.

"This is the sixth year of Open Access Week ... (as) a global event. It's celebrated internationally, (and) I know we've celebrated it in the past at the U of A, but I think it's been a few years," she said.

"This is the first time we're really trying to promote what open access is and how people can get involved."

The librarian team responsible

for putting together this year's Open Access Week will host five events, starting on Oct. 22 with a 90-minute panel discussion via a live blog and webcast where open access experts from a variety of groups will be speaking.

There will also be an event on Oct. 24 to guide university students and staff through the process of setting up a researcher page with the U of A's Educational Research Archive (ERA), an open access initiative Dalmer says is designed to allow university members to share their research.

"I don't think a lot of students and faculty are even aware of the ERA," she said.

"It allows faculty and students to collect and preserve whatever intellectual output they've made. Then it's posted through the U of A libraries, and people can search it."

Dalmer says there are two ways to break into the open access arena — the "green" way, and the "gold" way.

"The gold route, which is the ideal route, is publishing immediately in an open access journal — that just means it's open right from the start," Dalmer explained.

"Then there's also green open access, which means it was (originally) published in some kind

of privatized or 'normal' route of publishing. Then once they're published ... then they are taking their article and putting it in some sort of repository or archive."

Dalmer says open access means more than just providing free information — it also involves actively removing price and permission barriers from academic materials.

"One of the arguments for open access is that a lot of research funded in Canada and elsewhere is through public dollars, and so the public should have access to the materials they're helping to fund and be able to read the research they're helping to fund," she said.

"At the U of A, there's 31 open access journals that are hosted through the University of Alberta's open journal system, so students and faculty can definitely publish there."

As one of the five events for the week, Dalmer says the university's open access journals will be displayed on the main floor of Cameron from Monday to Friday.

"It's kind of neat, because they're journals representing all facets, all disciplines across campus," she said.

More information about the week's event schedule can be found at guides.library.ualberta.ca/oa.

campus crimebeat

COMPILED BY **April Hudson**

BAD BOOZING

At 2:50 a.m. on Oct. 13, a UAPS officer observed via surveillance camera a male passed out on the floor outside an elevator in Lister Centre with a group of people attempting to help him.

Officers arrived on scene at the same time as an ambulance. The male was determined not to be a resident or a U of A student, but was a friend of a resident who had been drinking off-campus. He was transported to the hospital for further treatment.

PASSED OUT PATIENT

Shortly after 1 a.m. on Oct. 13, officers on patrol in SUB noticed a male sleeping on the couches. He was identified via a hospital bracelet, and it was determined he had previously been trespassed from campus property.

He was re-issued his trespass notice and escorted to the LRT station, where he left property without incident.

BREAKING AND ENTERING

Just before 3 a.m. on Oct. 13, a staff member in Lister Centre reported a resident had just observed a group of males hoisting one another into a first floor window of one of the towers. The occupant of the room the males were attempting to enter was gone for the weekend, making this a breaking and entering.

The Edmonton Police K9 unit attended, and a thorough search was done but the males were not located.

UAPS and EPS are in the process of reviewing surveillance footage, and the investigation is ongoing.

OUT OF CONTROL

Around 1 a.m. on Oct. 14, UAPS officers were on the north exterior of one of the Lister Centre towers when they observed a half-full two litre bottle being thrown from a window on the top floor. They also

the staff member again, and that if he continued to do so EPS would be notified.

PARENTAL CONTROL

On Oct. 15 at 8:05 p.m., UAPS officers located an extremely intoxicated male on the west exterior of the Education Car Park. Though the male verbally identified himself, he refused to provide any other information.

An internal records check showed he had previously been trespassed from the U of A for sleeping in buildings on multiple occasions, as well as for drinking in public. He also had several outstanding warrants.

The male's father was contacted, but upon his arrival the male became extremely aggressive and refused to leave with him. The male was placed under arrest for public intoxication, and had to eventually be transported to the university hospital and turned over to police as he tried to injure himself while in custody.

FEISTY FELON

On Oct. 15, University of Alberta Protective Services (UAPS) stopped a male who was seen purposely stepping out in front of a bicyclist and appeared intoxicated. UAPS detained the male under the Provincial Offences and Procedures Act as he was not willing to remain on scene.

The Edmonton Police were contacted because the male had outstanding warrants. UAPS issued tags for public intoxication and possessing another person's driver's license.

UAPS CATCH OF THE WEEK

At 10:15 a.m. on Oct. 13, UAPS officers observed a male on the east exterior of the Old Arts Building who they recognized as being previously trespassed from campus for theft and sleeping in university buildings.

He was arrested for trespassing after failed attempts to provide officers with false names, and was transported off campus where he was issued a summons for trespassing and was released without incident.

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IN THEATRES OCTOBER 26

The Gateway would like to welcome two new staff members!

*A friend to polar bear
cubs everywhere,*



MICHELLE MARK

is our new Online Reporter

*Avid fan of Beverly
Hills 90210,*



KATHERINE SPEUR

*will hit the streets as our
Multimedia Reporter*

online at THEGATEWAYONLINE.CA

TEDxEdmonton spotlights education in weekend event

Scott Fenwick
NEWS STAFF • @SCOTTFENWICK

Last weekend, TEDxEdmonton held an education forum, bringing together people from numerous walks of life to share fresh ideas on knowledge and teaching.

In this special edition of the TEDxEdmonton series, an offshoot of the non-profit organization TED, a dozen speakers from business, post-secondary institutions and theatres presented their personal experiences with learning to an audience of 500 people in the Winspear Centre.

Ken Bautista, co-founder of the series, said this special event intended to bring together multiple perspectives instead of just people in the field of education to discuss learning and the potential futures of the field.

“Learning impacts us all — and how do we attack some of the problems and challenges ahead? This was an opportunity to bring together different perspectives and people to the table,” he explained.

“That was what we really wanted. We had all the social spaces and just chances for people to connect. It’s about the collision of people and ideas, and that’s really what TEDx is all about.”

Among the presenters was Brian Stewart, Athabasca University’s Vice-President (Information Technology), who spoke about analytics in online education.

By using computer algorithms to analyze students’ work patterns, Stewart argues educators may soon be able to get more immediate feedback on their performances.

He added analytics have the potential to assist post-secondary students who would otherwise be struggling.

“You could use (analytics) to ... create interventions, or change course materials or enhance the learning in some way,” he explained.

“Without that, we’re blind. You’re waiting such a long time on ‘was it successful?’ You may have to do midterms to find out if a student is struggling. With analytics, you can assess two weeks into the course if that person’s in real difficulty.”

“Learning impacts us all — and how do we attack some of the problems and challenges ahead? This was an opportunity to bring together different perspectives and people to the table.”

KEN BAUTISTA
TEDxEDMONTON CO-FOUNDER

University of Alberta Graduate Students’ Association President Ashlyn Bernier also delivered her thoughts as a graduate student during the forum, focusing on the gap between society’s low understanding of PhD students and the reality of the fresh perspective they can bring to a workplace.

“I think it’s a topic in my circle of friends and among students that I know is being discussed a lot, but

the general public doesn’t have a good understanding of what a PhD really is and what these students are really struggling with right now,” she said.

Bernier also spoke about her personal experiences with finding relevance for her education when applying it to real-world situations.

While she already holds a PhD, she will receive her MBA next spring.

“It shouldn’t be a secret if you’re unsure about what you can do with your degree, or if you’re struggling with what’s expected of you when you’re done,” she said.

“I think that’s a conversation that needs to happen.”

Bautista co-founded TEDxEdmonton as CEO of Startup Edmonton, another non-profit group which uses courses and community events to assist local entrepreneurs in starting up their businesses.

The first TEDx event the group organized was in 2012, and was independent of the original California-based series.

“When TED created the (TEDx) program about three years ago, we wanted to do something around bringing visibility, creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship here in the community,” he said.

“There was an opportunity to bring the (TED) brand here and use this as a platform to bring visibility to some of the people that are working on really interesting things in the community, and then also bring outsider perspectives into Edmonton.”

The next event in the TEDxEdmonton series will be held in June at the Citadel Theatre.

Ottawa student challenges mandatory student union membership in lawsuit

Katherine DeClerq
CUP ONTARIO BUREAU CHIEF

ONTARIO (CUP) — What began as a simple request to be removed from the Student Federation of the University of Ontario (SFUO) email listserv has now transformed into a legal request for resignation and compensation.

Edward Inch, a fifth-year chemistry student, is currently suing the SFUO in order to be exempted from the mandatory \$96.60 incidental fees that go towards SFUO services and advocacy.

“I am suing them because I feel they are a political organization and they take political stances I disagree with. I basically feel it is a violation of my freedom of association ... I want nothing to do with them,” Inch explained.

Inch ultimately decided to take the SFUO to small claims court after months of being ignored when he asked to be removed from the weekly student email sent out by the federation.

This prompted Inch to analyze his involvement at the university and realize he was dissatisfied with how the SFUO was spending the fees he paid each semester.

In particular, he was disturbed the student federation encouraged students to participate in Occupy Ottawa or other political associations.

“The point is they take political stances that not everyone agrees with — and I might not agree with

them, I may even agree with them — but I don’t want to be told by a student group that I have nothing to do with what my opinion is,” he said.

Ethan Plato, president of the SFUO, rebuked Inch’s argument by stating the federation represents the interests of students at large, and that as a student at the University of Ottawa, Inch has no choice but to pay his dues.

“As a member, as any undergraduate student, they have to pay all the incidental fees,” Plato said.

“The point is they take political stances that not everyone agrees with ... I don’t want to be told by a student group that I have nothing to do with what my opinion is.”

EDWARD INCH
CHEMISTRY STUDENT, UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA

“All incidental fees, including those collected by us ... are adopted democratically by referendum and are recognized by both the Ontario government and the University of Ottawa.”

The money collected from the fee goes towards providing student services and advocacy.

Plato explained their advocacy helped initiate things like the university’s fall reading week, better food in the cafeteria, and 24-hour

library services.

“Not all services are used by every student. That is a reality ... but there are certain things that we do that all students benefit from,” he said.

“There is advocacy on almost every level within our administration ... that wouldn’t necessarily happen if the SFUO didn’t exist in its current form.”

The outcome of the case at the University of Ottawa could set a precedent for other students to file similar lawsuits against the SFUO.

Over the past year, numerous student associations have held referendums to defederate, and while the results of those referendums are still being dealt with by the SFUO this seems to point to many dissatisfied students who may prefer to eliminate mandatory student fees.

However, Plato firmly believes the financial and social consequences are too great a risk, and says continuing along the usual tradition of mandatory student fees without exemption will ultimately benefit students at the University of Ottawa.

“We are fairly confident in our position and all students are aware that they must pay these incidental fees coming into the U of O — and I don’t think one case will change that requirement,” he said.

Both parties will attend a settlement conference on June 21 to be advised on how to proceed.

Opinion

Opinion Editor

Darcy Ropchan

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opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca

Volunteer

Opinion meetings Wednesdays at 5 p.m. in 3-04 SUB. C'mon by!

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Baumgartner jump more than a cheap commercial stunt

ON SUNDAY, AUSTRIAN SKYDIVER FELIX BAUMGARTNER MADE history by jumping from a helium-filled balloon from an estimated height of 128,097 feet. This daring act serves to inspire and push the limits of mankind's accomplishments — even if some only see Baumgartner's feat as nothing more than a publicity stunt.

According to preliminary data, Baumgartner set four new world records. He's the first man to break the sound barrier without travelling in a jet or spacecraft, he was the pilot in the highest manned-balloon flight, he now holds the record for the man to jump from the highest altitude and his fall holds the record for the most concurrent live YouTube streams with eight million viewers worldwide.

Critics view Baumgartner's jump as a publicity stunt and a cash grab campaign from Red Bull, the sponsor of the event. Doug Smith of the *Toronto Star* remarked: "The Mars thing? The moon landing? They contributed something significant to scientists. This? This was a (cool) stunt." Smith, and others, argue that Baumgartner's jump does not parallel other space achievements of the past. Some claim that Red Bull isn't in it for the science, questioning their motives as nothing more than a way to promote their brand.

Although Red Bull benefits from advertising through the wide range of extreme sports the company sponsors, they must be commended for the funding they provide for innovation in many areas. In an age of increasing US government austerity — especially towards the space program — sponsorship from private corporations could be the future of funding for many areas of groundbreaking research and scientific discovery. From this jump, the Red Bull Stratos team and NASA were hoping to contribute to the development of space suits, to explore the effects of supersonic acceleration and deceleration on the human body and to develop protocols for exposure to these conditions. Data collected from this jump could open the door to the next age of space exploration and tourism — making it much more than just a marketing ploy.

Baumgartner said of his jump, "I want to inspire the next generation". As his feat captivated a live audience worldwide, inspired posts on Facebook and Twitter reflected that he may have accomplished this goal. One small such Tweet from Opie Radio said, "Thanks to Felix Baumgartner I now have the confidence to jump off the high diving board without hesitating." The determination and hard work Baumgartner invested in this project shows the world what humans can accomplish. A feat of this magnitude shows us that dreaming big can pay off. Baumgartner is not a robotic super-human; his moment of hesitation before hurling himself to earth showed his humanity, reminding us that everyday people can accomplish great things.

Through all his adventures and accomplishments Baumgartner has remained modest. He claims that it's not about breaking any records or making a name for himself, rather, it's about gaining scientific data and making sure he comes home alive. And he's right. In a small way, Baumgartner was able to contribute to scientific research while people of the world come together.

On a global scale, the information gathered through Baumgartner's jump will serve to advance space exploration and information in the scientific community. On an individual level, every viewer of his jump should feel inspired by what he did and seek to dream big and explore their life. The jump was more than just a massive commercial for Red Bull: it's a reminder that people should be testing their limits and always striving to achieve more.

Selena Phillips-Boyle
PHOTO EDITOR

EDITORIAL HAIKU

Just pay in cash for one cup of two-dollar coffee like a normal person

When you buy coffee
And you need a credit card
You can't afford it.

Darcy Ropchan
CASH MONEY EDITOR



Anthony Goertz

letters to the editor

FROM THE WEB

Midterms affect all types of students on campus

(Re: "Midterms are a living hell for us engineers," by Yasir Ali, Oct. 10)

This joker has to be trolling us. Are you in that dire need of our sympathy? Midterms are tough for everyone. You are just playing into that stereotype of the engineering student who thinks his/her program is tougher, and as a result better than anything other program at the school. You engineers complain about course loads, then take a week in second semester to participate in that stupid group indulgence called Geer Week. Leave *The Gateway* writing for Humanities students that have time to think about issues more relevant to readers than self-pity

"silent majority"
VIA WEB

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Adjusting to normal life after war is no easy task

Your correspondent has invited me to write a short letter to *The Gateway*, perhaps thinking I may have an axe to grind or some message to convey. I gladly respond.

It is very difficult to express the feeling one has on returning to college after an absence of years on an extended European trip such as the one so many of the boys under took in the early part of the war.

It certainly is a great pleasure get back to civilized conditions and cease to live like a brute. There is a great deal of satisfaction in being able to breathe an atmosphere of freedom and stay out until 9:45 p.m. without applying for a pass or having to scale a high fence in order to avoid the somewhat impertinent questions of the Provost Sergeant (of course I never did the latter). But while we enjoy this freedom we have to comply with rigid rules of the dining hall and sit sedately at a table with so many knives and forks and spoons around that it is difficult to know the time and place to use these instruments. The army way is much more simple. One is provided with a minimum number of aforesaid instruments and has the option of using them as one wishes.

The changes that have taken place in the college life and personal are very apparent. The absence of classmates, of the college yell, and the changes in the personnel of the faculty all seem strange to a recent of arrival.

However, with the return of the former who are now overseas and the blending of the new spirit and new ideas which they will bring with those that are here now, we believe that the future success of Alberta College is assured.

In conclusion I would like to express my deep gratitude to all who have made life overseas more pleasant by keeping us informed of the events around college and by sending us parcels of "eats" which reminded us of the home-cooking in pre-war days. I would like to extend my special thanks to Miss Burkholder for all her kindness because I know how much

time and labour it has necessitated. I think one of the chief failings of the soldier is that he keeps his appreciations concealed too much and because of this failing he is sometimes considered ungrateful.

Wishing you all a very successful year, I am,

T.W. Musto
FEBRUARY 28, 1919

There's too many stupid engineers at this school

I was kicked by a donkey in the Engineering building. Since when has the University allowed asses to become engineers? If the admissions standards are lowered much further, it will not be long before jackasses will be getting plumbers certificates,

Awful Sore
JANUARY 7, 1954

Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca (no attachments, please).

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous, or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study, and student ID number to be considered for publication.

If you have a time machine, you can send us letters from the past. That one person sent a letter from 1919.

Biased surveys can't legitimize U-Pass price increase



Darcy Ropchan
OPINION EDITOR

Need a good reason to jack up the price of valuable service, but don't have a good excuse to do so? There's a simple way to get what you want. Make a survey that skews the data in your favour, share it in a less than forthright way, and you'll have the perfect justification to raise prices. That's what ETS has done in order make their proposed U-Pass cost hikes seem legitimate. But there are a few problems with their method of data collection which should make their survey results invalid.

Currently, students pay \$140 per semester for the U-Pass — which provides unlimited transit access in Edmonton for the four-month period in which it's valid. However, ETS has recently proposed an increase in cost which would see it priced at \$171.42 per semester. This value was determined by an ETS survey, in which it is estimated that the average U-Pass user makes about 47 trips per month. However, that's only an estimate, and the concrete numbers have not been released. A FOIP request has been filed by the Students' Union in order to see those results.



YOUR KEY TO THE CITY Having biased survey results doesn't make the cost increases justifiable. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: TIANBO LIU

ETS also had external company The Mustel Group administer an independent survey, which interviewed 2,500 students in line to get their U-Pass, as well as an online survey. The Mustel Group determined that students made roughly 38-41 trips per month. Although it does seem like both sides are amicably trying to come to an agreement, the fact that ETS created a biased survey that specifically targets regular transit users in order

to get larger numbers should raise a few eyebrows. The ETS survey was conducted at bus stops and transit centres. Of course they're more likely to find people that regularly depend on Edmonton public transit to get around — which in turn makes the average trip metric a lot higher and gives them the justification to raise the U-Pass prices. It fails to take into account students who live on or near by campus, students who regularly

drive and students who otherwise don't rely heavily on transit to get around the city. Likewise, with the Mustel Group survey, students in line to get their pass create biased results that lean in ETS' favour. Every student in line is going to say that they use their pass quite frequently — that's why they're in line the first place. The online component is just as biased. Once again, students who use the pass have a vested interest and are

going to go out of their way to fill out a survey that states how valuable the U-Pass is to them. When it comes to the cost, the U-Pass Advisory board has come to the table with the much more agreeable proposal of tying the cost of the U-Pass to the cost of the Municipal Price Index. Currently, it's tied the Consumer Price Index which Vice President (Student Life) Saadiq Sumar says fails to take into account the price of fuel and other costs related to transit. And although the price is a bit higher than CPI, MPI is a fair way to go when it comes to raising the price. According to Sumar, transit providers are open to the proposal of tying the cost to MPI, but are not willing to reconsider the trip metric in order to accurately reflect the true number of regular U-Pass users. However, ETS must come to peace with the advisory board and create a truly independent and unbiased survey. It would make sense to talk to a wide number of students all over campus in order to get accurate results. Interviewing students on Quad, in SUB or any other area frequented by a large number of students would see a range of people who depend on the U-Pass as well as those who don't. Until a truly unbiased survey is conducted, ETS has no solid numbers or credibility to stand on during these negotiations.

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Dog bylaw should be put down



Joel Aspden
OPINION WRITER

Who let the dogs out? City Council — maybe. Hopefully, by next week, they will vote to abolish a bylaw that unfairly affects dogs of certain specific breeds and the owners of those dogs. It's a tough debate that deserves attention from many angles, and it's one that should end in a population of equal dogs — but with a mandatory increase in owner awareness.

For more than a decade now, the owners of Staffordshire Bull Terriers and American Staffordshire Terriers have had to muzzle their dogs, keep away from the big, beautiful off-leash parks in the river valley and pay extra for insurance with essentially no return. It's an unfair imposition that the worried use to soothe their fears.

As we domesticated these animals over centuries, we weren't wrapping their snouts up with rope. Instead, we were selecting them to be responsive to us, to be docile, to be family pets and to look amazing. While "amazing" may a subjective term, the underlying theme is that domestication did a good job, and now we're doing a bad job by unfairly restricting a supposed violent breed of dog.

A dog has to be free, and should be exploring the wonders of life through its nose and interactions with other dogs. More than 20 times more sensitive than our own, a dog's nose is able to experience the smells of the world on a whole other level. To deprive them of their biology, their most important sense, by keeping them muzzled or inside for tortuously large amounts of time is wrong.



IT'S RUFF BEING A DOG Owners are responsible for violent dog's behaviour. STEFANO J. UN

When it comes to this dog or that dog, just like humans, certain dogs have predispositions to behaviours that are stronger than others. Staffordshire terriers have been bred as working dogs — and unfortunately fighting dogs too. While this is important to keep in mind, the breed is not the issue.

It wouldn't be fair to criticize all dog owners, as the problem group is very small. But awareness of the proper way to train these dogs needs to increase. The solution could be a puppy adoption tax to fund mandatory training programs for the owners of high-risk breeds. Using this tax or fee to implement a requirement for certain breeds to be trained for a full year by certified breeders or trainers might also work. Even owner assessment might be a solution, requiring that the owners themselves commit to

correct training. In any case, the bottom line is: it isn't the dogs fault if it becomes dangerous, it's the owner's.

In a city with such amazing trails and views, it's sad to think that so many dogs may never see them. When it comes to Staffordshire Terriers and other high-risk breeds, their outward aggression is a result of owners not giving them the respect, care and time they require. Despite being a human problem, the issue needs to be addressed. Rather than rules restricting what these dogs can do, there should be rules restricting owners from mistreating their dogs, ensuring they are giving dogs the attention, training and exercise they desperately need. Though next week may well see nothing change, going forward, let's keep our humanity in check and respect our furry friends.

Food trucks win race against restaurants



Jennifer Polack
OPINION WRITER

Food trucks are the superheroes of fine cuisine. The common people of the world rely on them to provide fresh and delicious food in places where a quality chow-down simply wasn't feasible before. Skipping rocks on the pond at Hawrelak and have a serious hankering for pulled pork? Food truck. Want to take that sexy someone you wooed and won on Whyte Avenue out for some quality food at midnight before you both sober up? Food truck. Suddenly factors like place and time have no influence on when and where delicious food may be consumed.

But like all good superheroes, sometimes the incredible awesomeness that is the food truck industry is questioned by those who think that newfound power of portability is too great. Restaurants not blessed with wheels under their kitchen may encounter some extra competition if a food truck rolls into the neighborhood. Earlier this year on 100 Avenue and 108 Street, Grandma Lee's sandwich shop complained when the Drift food truck parked nearby, claiming the truck was taking away their customers. Nevin and Kara Fenske, the owners of Drift, successfully appealed the complaint, and the situation brought to light the lack

of city legislation dictating when and where food trucks are allowed to operate.

Unlike real superheroes, in our democratic and capitalist society, any one of us common folk can become the titan atop the paradigm of summer cuisine with nothing but some cooking skills, a restaurant on wheels and a dream of providing delightful cuisine to the street-walking masses. However, this dream is based in economic necessity. The rising cost of real estate in Edmonton can make it difficult for small business owners to afford to sell high-quality food and rent simultaneously, so in a wave of ingenuity, these entrepreneurs decided to not compromise the quality of their product for an overpriced storefront, instead taking their creations on the road.

Any issues that traditional restaurants have with food trucks should be channeled into making their own food better and winning back their customers with a higher quality product.

As a result, the number of food trucks in Edmonton has made a notable increase. Yet this food truck craze is not solely the fault of the real estate market. The growth of food culture is expanding from the

storefront to the highway with the help of shows like *The Great Food Truck Race* and *Street Food* on the Food Network channel. The result is a rapidly expanding food truck industry in Edmonton which has inspired local events like *What the Truck?!* held biannually in Churchill Square and a shift of consumer interest away from the storefronts and towards the parking lot.

The root of the storefronts vs. food truck battle resides entirely on the stomach, watch and wallet of the consumer. If all a storefront offers is week-old sandwiches and soup from a can, while the food truck parked outside whips up fresh Korean barbecue in the same amount of time and in a similar price range, the smart consumer will undoubtedly dine at the food truck.

Any issues that traditional restaurants have with food trucks should be channeled into making their own food better and winning back their customers with a higher quality product, not complaining to the nearest authority. Generally, that is how competition works.

If restrictions are put on where and when food trucks can park and sell their product simply to "protect" storefronts from customer theft, then the system is not working.

A little healthy competition helps keep the quality of the product high, and considering that a restaurant's product is going inside people's mouths, most would appreciate it if their purchase is of exceptional quality.

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Bad timing for the EU Peace Prize



Ryan Bromsgrove
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Giving the Nobel Peace Prize to the EU right now is like giving the Nobel Prize in Medicine to a scientist who cured cancer but is currently on trial for murder. Their work might be totally deserving of the award, and they may make it through their respective crises — but it sure doesn't seem like the best timing.

When the Nobel Peace Prize is awarded to an unconventional recipient, critics have often decry the prize as a joke or irrelevant, bringing up recipients like Henry Kissinger and Barack Obama as evidence that "it really doesn't mean anything anymore." Sure, they seem like odd choices — to say the least — but one or two dumb decisions shouldn't distract from the worth of the prize. There's something hopeful about the fact that although we're a species often set on destroying each other — whether out in the open or via a drone war — we do at least have this one globally relevant recognition of groups and individuals who try desperately to prevent the idiocy and deadly consequences of violent conflict.

Yes, the European Union has done a lot to promote "fraternity between nations" in the past. The EU is fraternity between nations. Nobody could imagine France and Germany at war these days. The devastation of World War II prompted Europe to never to let anything so stupid happen again. And by and large, it's worked — so far.



NOT RIGHT NOW Get your crisis dealt with first, then we'll talk. SUPPLIED

But what we're seeing right now is far from proof that it's worked permanently. It would be better if instead of awarding it now, in the midst of the Eurozone's financial crisis, the prize were awarded as a reward instead of encouragement. Because when it comes down to it, if this was awarded in hopes that the EU will stop the economic slowdown and infighting and take a more measured approach when it comes to handling their economy, it will fail. Faced with crippling government debt, worrying unemployment rates and a breaking currency, The EU is not going to suddenly grit their teeth and band together for the good of world peace. They're scared, irrational and hoping for an easy fix. When people are scared, they often turn to short term solutions in order to take the pressure off. Awarding the prize in the hope of future political gains doesn't work.

We all saw what happened with Barack Obama. He received the Peace Prize. And a little later, he substantially increased the intensity of that drone war I mentioned in Pakistan.

It doesn't take a Peace Prize recipient to realize that's not exactly peaceful work. Had they held off a couple of years to actually examine his actions before they awarded it, it wouldn't have gone to him.

And it would be far more impressive a prize if it was awarded later — hopefully after the EU climbs back out of the economic hole it's currently in. It would be a deserved prize awarded to a union of nations who not only stuck together when times were good, but also when times were so bad that the possibility of abandoning the monetary union is being put forward as a potential solution.

This is another Peace Prize that will go down in history as a total gimmick. It's a shame that activists and other accomplished people the world over working tirelessly to promote peace are being passed over for a union that, while holding an impressive past over the last half century — and not pelting each other with bullets is, unfortunately, legitimately the bar for impressive — has a future that's uncertain at best.

#3LF

three lines free

Got something that you need to get off your mind? Either email us at threelinesfree@gateway.ualberta.ca, tweet @threelinesfree, or message us at www.thegatewayonline.ca/threelinesfree

I am not an alcoholic. Alcoholics go to those meetings.

CCIS Starbucks sucks. If I can speak Starbucks, they definitely should be able to.

I shit my pants again at Cameron

I had my first blow job last week. It tasted awful.

Yellow T- shirts are not very attractive

If you are a doormat to your spouse. You probably don't have a great relationship.

The cutest season, Adorable apparel, and cold rosy cheeks.

squirrel away some trail mix in a pouch of your knapsack! tastes great! o_o

Hey SU Exec., what have you done to RATT? Please bring back \$4 pints, cheaper food and daily specials.

Fashionstreeters, 'beauty commentary,' silly op-eds, Darcy Ropchan, and juvenile writing that's still titillated by idiocy, contrariness, and turpitude: what The Gateway wastes paper on every week.

Date Night on Campus: what is a date? I'm pretty sure I am a walking man repellent. :(

I doubt I deserve to be alone. Even dictators get girlfriends.

charleston chew, yum what a bar. delicious on a snowy day with a piping hot hot chocolate from tim hortons

Why is the SAB/Dent-Pharm tunnel always so fucking hot?

Butts

Tribes ftw. Gotta go fast...

To the girl who keeps asking questions in PMCOL 201. Shut up. Your questions are bad and you should feel bad.

Event listings, campus crime beat, streeters, letters, 3LF, classifieds, sports, and news reportage: what's consistently useful or fairly well-written in The Gateway

Why do people leave their stuff unattended at Rutherford when they leave the library?

I only drink when I am alone or with somebody.

you could cook eggs on the grease coming off of Cameron library keyboards

To all those who feel the need to stop and have conversations on the stairs - Fuck You , stairs are for walking not for talking

To the guy featured with the Keffiyeh, are you single? You're so damn fine

People who watch marching music on you tube look like assholes.

EVERYONE IS SO PRETTY I DONT KNOW WHO TO BE ATTRACTED TO

thewandereronline.com is just a circle jerk for SU hacks, get a life guys!

Peeing on the toilet seat is a crime against humanity. Lift it up, motherfuckers!

I have never special ordered books about the Gulag. I am not a douche-bag either.

The Gateway reserves the right to refuse publication of any TLF it deems racist, sexist, libellous or otherwise hateful in nature.

the marble pedestal

Ryan Stephens

Love him or hate him, Pierre Trudeau's influence is still felt throughout Canada's political scene. No, I'm not talking about spreading his love across different cultures with his endless pursuit of multiculturalism. I'm talking about spreading his love across different partners: two of the current candidates for the Liberal leadership are directly tied to our fashionable former PM's libido.

As many of us already know, Pierre's very own firstborn Justin has recently entered the race to much fanfare and adoration. He's certainly inherited his father's hotheadedness, already blowing up in the House of Commons and calling our environment minister a "piece of shit." Could that be Canada's next "just watch me?"

He'll be facing off against Deborah Coyne, an academic and lawyer who certainly won't back down from a fight. The kicker is that she and Pierre had a lengthy relationship in the 1980s after his divorce with Justin's mother. Was Coyne simply Pierre Trudeau's rebound? Perhaps that tidbit will surface in the middle of a heated debate.

With all of this intrigue, one can't help but imagine Pierre sitting atop his marble pedestal in the sky, giggling at the prospects of Liberal debates becoming more than a little personal.

The Marble Pedestal is semi-regular feature where something that needs to be praised is placed upon a figurative Marble Pedestal.

Cell phones and dating a bad call



Alexander Sorochan
OPINION WRITER

The cellular telephone: an invention that's swept across the face of the earth. Almost everyone has one, and more often than not, they have their faces buried in them. As a result, the world has become a much smaller place. You can reach anybody 24/7, no matter where in the world they are — but this is both a blessing and curse, especially when it comes to the game of courting.

Dating has changed drastically with the rise of the cell phone. To ask someone out, you used give someone a call, set up a time and place and then go on with your life. You would see your friends and do things without having to worry about when to text your date or partner. Once you got together, you would be able to talk about the things you were doing before you met up and actually have a conversation without being interrupted by a barrage of texts from your friends wondering how it's going so far.

Nowadays, it's totally different. You get somebody's number at a bar, and before you even see them in the sober light of day you're texting and learning their life story. If you have a partner, you're essentially with them constantly: there's no break or alone time. Just like a doctor, you're constantly on call, and whenever they text, you better answer — otherwise there'll be hell to pay. In person, the conversation is lacking, since you've most likely already told your significant other exactly what happened



THIS DATE IS BORING Cell phones can ruin the romance. GRIFFIN CORNWALL

the night before via phone.

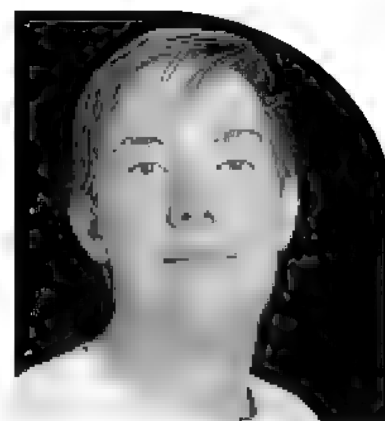
There are a lot of positives to cell phones. The convenience and the ability to look at funny cat pictures wherever you go is awesome. You can also sound smart in a conversation by googling information under the table. And hey, even in the dating world there are uses — if you're running a bit behind schedule you can let them know. I'm on my phone as much as anyone else and I do enjoy it a lot of the time. But sometimes I'd like to throw it off a bridge and return to a simpler time when I didn't have to be constantly connected to everyone. I could take a deep breath and have some time alone.

Dating in this day and age is different. Waiting the supposedly standard

three days to call someone just isn't feasible anymore. No alone time combined with being able to communicate all day every day means there's almost nothing to talk about when you see someone in person. In many ways, technology may improve our lives, but in the case of dating, it's best to do things the old-fashioned way.

Tell your new date that you don't have a cell phone. Or better yet, make it clear that you have a strict 'email only' policy until at least the third date. You don't want your date to think you're easy when it comes to texting. It may seem like a bit much, but it'll cut out all that pointless communication between romantic rendezvous and make you seem more mysterious — which is never a bad thing.

Alcohol makes life worth it



Jeremy Cherlet
OPINION WRITER

Getting intoxicated is one of the great pleasures in life. It takes away our problems and makes the world seem that much more pleasant for those few hours when one is under the effects of the drink. However, some take offense to drinking and its supposed health risks — they even go so far as to suggest that people abstain from drinking. But that's ludicrous — drinking is one of the few pleasures students have left in their lives.

Let's face it: people's lives are amazingly difficult. Between academic deadlines, the stress of a job — or the lack of a job — we have an inordinate amount of stress placed upon us. We're like Atlas, who bore the weight of the heavens upon his shoulders. Perhaps that's a slight exaggeration but school can certainly feel like that sometimes. It's by no means out of order to suggest that we're all deserving of a good drink on a regular basis, or as the preferences of many students seem to suggest, a fair amount of good drinks on a very regular schedule. Alcohol is a great friend; it takes our problems away, helps us forget the unsavory and monotonous details of our lives and gives our surroundings a wonderful glow.

Often those against excessive drinking are all too eager to highlight both the negative societal and physical effects that result from it, and it seems that they have a lot of luck in this area, as there are many

of both. Even though research has been unable to prove any major health benefits to alcohol, in contrast to the many ill effects that have been discovered, a body should be for fun — not preservation. Waking up and feeling terrible should not be taken as a sign that one's body does not desire to be poisoned night after night; instead it should be seen as a mark of victory for a time well had. As for those who enjoy themselves there are even more bonuses — nothing defines a good time like having your arms wrapped around a toilet as you vomit up the last few hours worth of drinks and question every decision that led you to this end.

Among the other alcohol-related bogeymen put forth by those against its relentless consumption is usually the societal cost resulting from uninhibited drunken behavior. Property damage, increased policing costs and required medical treatment resulting from people having too much of a good time. Bar fights are terribly entertaining — as long as I'm not the one involved — and people's drunken antics give colour and character to otherwise boring outings: nobody wants to see contented people enjoying themselves in a respectful and constrained manner.

Holding back on drinking, or worse — abstaining totally — is definitely a terrible idea and one that we should never be considered seriously. Our lives would change drastically if we suddenly had mornings without regret, and alcohol poisoning was a thing of the past. Without the various tales of debauchery and being regaled with stories of Saturday night shenanigans our Mondays would be much more dull.



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Procrastination

nation

by Madeline Smith

You don't have to look hard to find students doing it on campus. They're everywhere, at all hours of the day: in every corner of Rutherford and Cameron library, in every SUB study spaces, in the HUB lounges — idly flipping through Facebook photo albums and getting lost in YouTube while textbooks go unread and essays go unfinished.

Tales of extreme procrastination are a fixture of the academic war stories students share at the end of each semester: the time you waited until an hour before the exam to start studying but still pulled a passing grade, the long night of turmoil and caffeine you endured to complete your entire 12-page paper in one furious burst of writing, the extravagant number of hours you spent working through a video game instead of a tough lab report. To some extent, most are familiar with the hope each new semester brings for finally getting organized for real and not putting things off, saving yourself from academic agony. But when midterm season descends and once distant due dates are suddenly staring you in the face, there's no denying that the vicious cycle of avoidance has repeated itself yet again.

Completing schoolwork is far from the only activity subject to the destruction of procrastination. From postponing getting out of bed when you hear your alarm to spending "just a few more minutes" watching TV before going to sleep, procrastination can affect everything — the most fundamental or menial parts of a daily routine. And while nearly everyone procrastinates sometimes, it's estimated that about a quarter of students who put things off are chronic procrastinators. This can contribute to far more significant disturbances than occasionally postponing minor tasks, potentially paving the way to guilt, anxiety and depression.

Far beyond a simple problem with time management or motivation, procrastination can sometimes result in serious mental health consequences, especially for students faced with a mountain of overwhelming work trying to prove their academic worth. Educational institutions readily acknowledge this: university counselling services, including those offered by the U of A Mental Health Centre, often provide resources specifically geared towards helping students deal with and work through procrastination problems.

Piers Steel, a social scientist and professor at the University of Calgary's Haskayne School of Business, is a prominent researcher in the science of procrastination as well as the author of *The Procrastination Equation*, a book that provides insight into the psychology behind procrastination and offers solutions to combat the behaviour. He points out that procrastination can show up in virtually any area of a person's life, and as society and technology have evolved, so has our access to distractions. This makes it much more difficult to combat the key source of chronic procrastination: lack of impulse control.

"It's actually become a pandemic," Steel says.

"It's grown because of access to really first-rate temptations — immediate access to them increases procrastination. If you want to increase childhood obesity, put French fries in the cafeteria. If you want to increase gambling, put lottery terminals all around the place. If you want to increase procrastination, have everyone work in front of a computer with access to YouTube and social networks."

The causes of procrastination can also work to perpetuate it. Procrastinators sometimes even openly acknowledge this, poking fun with phrases like "I'll do something about my procrastination... tomorrow." Steel explains that this in itself is a self-destructive habit, helping procrastinators justify their inability to regulate their compulsions to avoid whatever they're supposed to be doing while also normalizing their behaviour for both themselves and the people around them.

"The easiest thing is to laugh about it and dismiss it. That gives you the immediate reward. Procrastinators are the most vulnerable, and that's why they do it: they're impulsive. They like the now more than the later, and being able to make fun of their foibles instead of actually dealing with them gives them the immediate reward," Steel says.

Humour can be a common defense mechanism for the implications of procrastination that make us uncomfortable, leading to misunderstandings about its seriousness. But for those subject to its more damaging effects, dismissive jokes are increasingly not amusing. As more research on the habit emerges, some argue the behaviour should be treated more like an addiction than a detrimental personality quirk. The website Procrastinator's Anonymous gives people like this a place where they can find support and resources to deal with the effects of procrastination on their lives. They schedule in-person,

phone and online meetings to discuss their struggles and successes with each other, much like other 12-step programs geared towards conquering addictions, and share insights on dealing with the negative impact of procrastination. At extremes, this can include things like being unable to enjoy any leisure time or fun activities due to obsessing over what's actually supposed to be getting done, robbing procrastinators of their ability to be in the moment because they chose an easier short-term out from their work.

"Procrastination by its very nature is not adaptive, because you are putting things off despite expecting to be worse off," Steel explains. "You, yourself expect to be worse off, and you, yourself are often right. Like any type of addiction, the people keep putting it off because it's easier."

Facing a task we find boring or intimidating makes it easier to put off, Steel says, but the biggest factor in determining the likelihood for procrastination to occur is a lack of impulse control. The benefits of doing something that won't pay off until a future time just don't compare to the instant gratification of avoiding what you don't want to do. Chronic procrastinators, in some sense, are addicted to the immediate rewards that come from pleasing themselves instead of facing discomfort or difficulty. And in the bigger picture, this behaviour is not to be scoffed at — your quality of life might be on the line.

"Eventually, it's kind of like you miss the starting gun," Steel says. "This is our brief time on earth, and if you are not particularly religious — and even if you are — this is it. Every moment is sacred and important and finite and it's all blowing away."

"The reality of that responsibility and the importance and even sacredness of your life and your choices is so overwhelming that people don't want to deal with it. They pretend their lives and choices don't matter, when it all does."



Anti-procrastination tactics:

1. Just start something

Sometimes a task or assignment just feels so overwhelming that it's hard not to put it off. If this is happening to you, give yourself "permission" to procrastinate, but do something else on your list instead of giving in to time-wasting temptations like surfing the internet. You're still being productive, and cutting down your to-do list might help reduce anxiety about getting started on whatever is worrying you.

2. Change the way you use the internet and your computer

Sometimes, even if you've made a commitment not to look at your go-to distractions on the interwebs, the compulsive habit of moving the mouse over to the bookmarked Facebook or Twitter link is too strong to resist. Consider installing programs such as Freedom or Anti-Social, which for a price allow you to block all or selective parts of the internet. If you don't want to pay to remove these temptations, Piers Steel recommends a different tactic: make two separate user accounts on your computer and designate one for work and the other for social networks, gaming or other activities. Set them up to look completely different and give yourself access to separate applications on both, then restrict yourself to school and work duties only on the work account.

3. Change your routine to form habits conducive to focused work time

Designate a specific place or time for work each day rather than waiting for a time when you'll magically feel like doing what you've been putting off, and enforce the schedule every day. Some people find it helps to wear certain clothing or listen to certain music to help themselves understand it's time to work. Being tired can also contribute to procrastination, so consider trying to overhaul your sleep schedule if it's irregular.

4. Ask for help

Procrastination can cause some seriously undesirable effects on your life, and admitting you have a problem with it doesn't mean you're lazy. Ask yourself why you're procrastinating and examine your issues at a deeper level rather than continually dismissing them. Have someone you can call for encouragement and motivation if you feel yourself starting to procrastinate, and get them to check in and help you hold yourself accountable for completing tasks on time. If procrastination is contributing to serious anxiety or depression or vice versa, look into counselling options to talk out the issues you're experiencing instead of trying to hide them.

Arts & Culture

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A&C meetings Wednesdays at 4 p.m. in 3-04 SUB.

social intercourse

COMPILED BY Paige Gorsak

DEDfest 2012

Wednesday, Oct. 17 - Sunday, Oct. 21

Garneau Theatre (8712 109 St.)

Tickets available at the door

Just in time for Halloween, DEDfest brings the best of the bizarre to the big screen at Garneau Theatre, filling your fake blood and alien quota for the year over five evenings. Now in its fifth year, the festival has become a must for lovers of everything cinematically horrific. The craziest cult, sci-fi and horror films premiere during the event's run, along with cult classics from the past. Join other carnage enthusiasts in a Halloween-themed movie marathon or take a date to an event that might make them nauseous — the choice is yours. This year's lineup includes *Among Friends*, directed by Danielle Harris of Rob Zombie's *Halloween* franchise, the 30th anniversary showing of the infamous *Creepshow* and the uplifting *ABCs of Death*, focused on 26 horror film directors who each invented a different way to die.

Cadence Weapon

With Mitchmatic & The Lytics

Tuesday, Oct. 23 at 8 p.m.

Starlite Room (10030 102 St.)

\$19.25 at primeboxoffice.com

So who exactly is Rollie Pemberton? Some associate his name with his former role as Edmonton's Poet Laureate, a two-year nominated position in which an individual is a cultural ambassador for literary arts. Others know him as Cadence Weapon, Edmontonian rapper and three-time nominee for the Polaris Prize. Of course, these two identities go hand in hand, creating a musical and cultural icon this city can and should brag about. Pemberton's literary background inspires his smooth, intelligent raps, while the backing tracks of heavy beats and synthesizer flourishes are often produced by Pemberton himself — mixed with a variety of samples from old-school hip hop, funk and soul music. This year, Pemberton released his third studio album, *Hope in Dirt City*, which features live instrumentals and full-bodied electronic beats. Alongside the album, his ragged, envelope-pushing raps continue to inspire and reimagine typical hip hop by exploring deeper issues through creative wordplay. The ambitious and talented Pemberton is taking his hip-hop persona to the stage at the Starlite Room this week, with a high-energy show and shout-outs to his hometown.

Ladyhawk

With Baby Eagle and The Proud Mothers

Thursday, Oct. 18 at 7 p.m.

Wunderbar (8120 101 St.)

\$20 in advance at yeglive.ca

In 2004, four friends who shared a dream of getting hammered and playing shows — no matter the consequences, be it broken ribs or vomit on stage — started an indie rock garage band. Since then, Ladyhawk has not only built up their alcohol tolerance, but also managed to amass a huge number of fans from across Canada and the UK. Husky vocals and crashing cymbals distinguish the Vancouver band, who are stopping in Edmonton on their first album release tour in four years. With the significant gap between albums, their latest *No Can Do* has been long-anticipated by veteran fans, and the howling vocals and gritty guitar will surely inspire new fans as they pack into the tiny Wunderbar for one of their trademark rowdy shows.



Comic Expo brings pop culture classics and stars to Edmonton

COMIC PREVIEW

The Edmonton Comic & Entertainment Expo

WHEN Saturday, Oct. 20 from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 21 from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

WHERE > Edmonton Expo Centre (7515 119 Ave.)

HOW MUCH Individual passes \$20, weekend passes \$30 at the door

Ryan Bromsgrove

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF • @RYAWESOME

Set phasers to fun! It's not often that pop culture staples like Lando Calrissian, Lt. Uhura and Adam West's Batman take their spacecraft and Batmobiles to Edmonton. But this weekend, the Edmonton Comic & Entertainment Expo is fixing this sci-fi and comic book deficiency by bringing all these and more to the Edmonton Expo Centre.

Organized by the people behind the Calgary Comic & Entertainment Expo, this is the first time Edmontonians can get their own taste of the event without having to pile into a friend's car, hoping the three-hour drive won't ruin their bulky, handcrafted Pikachu costumes. Still, comparisons with Calgary are inevitable, what with sci-fi and comic fans being so famously meticulous. But with seven years of past experience, founder and event director Kandrix Foong knows how to put on a good show.

"The coolest thing that we did for Calgary was doing the Star Trek reunion for *The Next Generation*. That was something that was noticed across the world because it (had) never happened before," Foong says.

Though the Edmonton event does pair the great Adam West up with his old sidekick Burt Ward, who played the original Robin, it doesn't quite have the clout to reunite entire crews of the *Enterprise* — yet.

"It'll be a lot smaller in terms of scale as we're learning how to work with the venue," Foong explains. "I think the coolest thing is just being able to bring the show to Edmonton. We've had a lot of fans that have been wanting to have something in their hometown."

With seven shows behind them, the Calgary event has grown over the years to take up the entire BMO Centre. Foong hopes to see the Edmonton event rival — or even exceed — Calgary's accomplishments in the next three to five years.

But beyond merely growing the event as a parallel exposition, the Edmonton show is looking to provide hardcore fans with the time to check out both.

"Something that we definitely want to do is have a different flavour at both shows ... You don't want to be like a travelling circus where it's the exact same thing all the time because then it gets kind of dry."

Keeping things fresh means mixing up the guests and panels this time around. The Edmonton event boasts a weekend full of talks on just about everything: bronies, steampunk culture, costuming advice, the evolution of hilarious horror metal band GWAR and local video game developer Bioware — including one session on the future of *Dragon Age*. The variety of talks to attend, including some with advice on how to break into the various industries associated with the Comic Expo, is impressive — and that's before you get to the vast number of artists and other exhibitors who will also be present.

But of course, it's the big names like those from the Whedonverse that will dominate many fans' schedules. Featuring Jewel Staite and Charisma Carpenter — *Firefly*'s Kaylee Frye and *Buffy*'s Cordelia Chase respectively

— commenting on their experiences working with him, their panel should help local Joss Whedon fanatics get their fix.

"(Whedon's) incredibly hot with directing *The Avengers*, which is probably the number one movie period right now," says Foong. "(He's) just got so much about him that everybody clamours towards what this guy does."

Then there's everyone's favourite Batman, Adam West, whose wackiness extends to slipping right into his *Family Guy* alter ego Mayor Adam West.

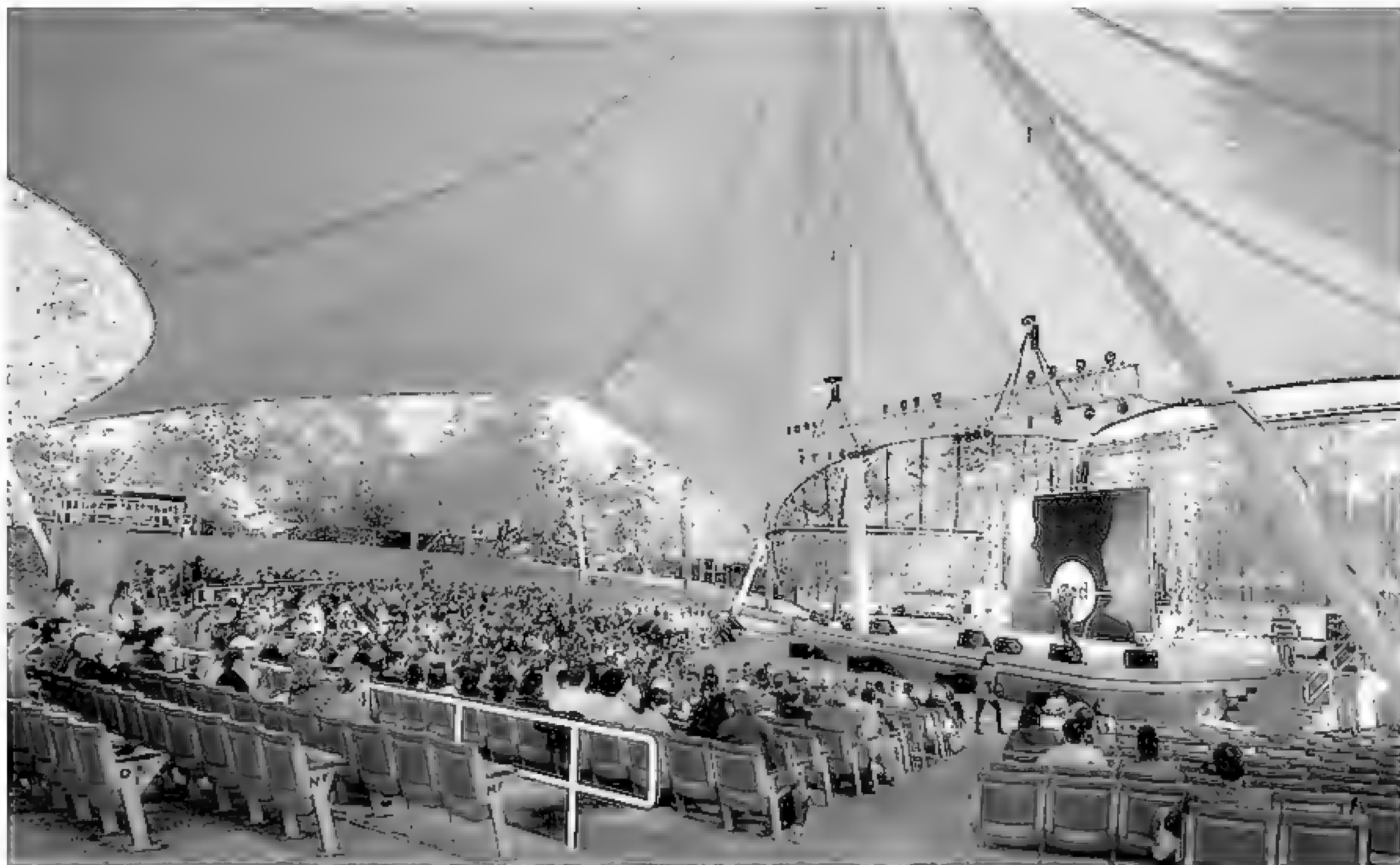
"I think the coolest thing is just being able to bring the show to Edmonton. We've had a lot of fans that have been wanting to have something in their own hometown."

KANDRIX FOONG
EDMONTON COMIC & ENTERTAINMENT EXPO FOUNDER AND EVENT DIRECTOR

"He's a pretty cool guy to just listen to and talk to," Foong confirms. "When we run a lot of these panels, there's also an open Q & A and sometimes you get some really great questions from the audience. The fun part is seeing their reactions and the way they actually answer them."

With guests of that calibre, the Edmonton Comic & Entertainment Expo looks set to give fans the nerdiest weekend this city's ever seen. And with other events like Animethon, it's certainly seen a few.

"I think they're going to love it," Foong says. "Because honestly, the hardcore fans will go to both events — and once we started announcing a lot of the things, a lot of them were just very excited, like, 'Aw yeah, finally, it's about time.' They're just happy to see that we're trying to put something together."



POWERPOINT POWER A glimpse at PechaKucha 13, which was held at the Heritage Amphitheatre earlier this year.

PechaKucha an interactive look at power of PowerPoint

EVENT PREVIEW

PechaKucha Night 14

PRESENTED BY: Edmonton's NextGen

WHEN > Thursday, Oct. 18 at 7:30 p.m.

WHERE > Myer Horowitz Theatre (SUB)

HOW MUCH > \$12 for students at primeboxoffice.com

Ryan Stephens

ARTS & CULTURE STAFF • @STEPHENSJRYAN

Every student suffers through at least one overly long and unmotivated PowerPoint slideshow that does more to lull them to sleep than impart knowledge or inspiration. With their upcoming PechaKucha Night, Edmonton's NextGen aims to show what a little hustle can do to an otherwise tedious presentation style.

At precisely six minutes and 40 seconds long, PechaKucha slideshows force presenters to make the most of their time on stage. Though it may seem like an arbitrary time limit, it equates to 20 slides auto-advancing every 20 seconds, meaning that composure and rehearsal is an absolute must to ensure the speaker isn't left behind.

"It's really snappy," explains Ryan Stark, co-chair of Pecha Kucha Nights. "It keeps the presenter on topic, clarifies their ideas and it keeps the audience interested in what the

presenter is saying."

Stark explains the idea for PechaKucha — the term meaning "the sound of chit-chat" in Japanese — started within a Tokyo architecture firm looking for a way to rejuvenate their lifeless business presentations. Before long, it spread to cities across the world, widening its scope beyond that of design and architecture to include ideas from all walks of life.

Despite the apparent rigid nature of PechaKucha, it's usually not just dialogue and images. Presenters are encouraged to play with their brief time in the spotlight by using the spacious stage to their advantage, while showing their own interpretation of what a presentation should entail.

"We've had presenters talk about the importance of bread, and not just talk about it, but they actually made dough on stage," Stark recalls. "We've had presenters talk about acro-yoga and how important that is ... and they actually did the yoga poses. The silhouettes were the images behind them, but they actually did the yoga poses in front of those silhouettes for the audience to see."

On Thursday night, the event will feature a diverse array of speakers from local students, bloggers and musicians to CEOs and government ministers. Stark affirms that it's not so much the name that counts, but rather the stories that they're eager to share.

"It's about anybody with an idea or concept or passion or something that they're interested in.

"There will definitely be names that you've heard before and names

that you haven't heard before, but hopefully you'll find at least one of the presentations interesting and walk away learning something new. That's what it's all about."

According to Stark, the greatest benefit of PechaKucha Night is the exposure it gives to creative pursuits that often lurk just below the radar in Edmonton. His goal is to encourage people to uncover their city's untapped ideas and realize the potential of its residents.

"I've always liked the phrase 'We only see what we're prepared to see,' " he says. "People sometimes think that Edmonton isn't necessarily the most happening place, but there is definitely a lot going on here. You just need to hear about it and learn about it and see it — just be exposed to it."

Edmonton is in a stage right now where many are extremely receptive to creativity and entrepreneurship, not content with the conventionality of a typical night on the town. PechaKucha is the perfect alternative, allowing residents to travel around Edmonton, experiencing its many signature venues and personalities.

"I think Edmontonians are embracing things," Stark says. "They're looking for things to do that are outside of the ordinary events that they could attend — the fundraisers and things like that."

"We offer something different that's a night where you can learn about cool things going on in your city and people who are passionate about different things."

ALBUM REVIEW

C'MON ARIZONA



Christian Hansen C'mon Arizona

Unsigned
christianhansenband.com

Ramneek Tung

ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

Christian Hansen's second studio album sees the band making a drastic change to their sound. While the band's debut *Power Leopard* was synth-heavy and dance floor friendly, *C'mon Arizona* puts an emphasis on guitar-driven melodies and darker lyrics, making for a haunting record.

The lyrics suggest a cynical view of the world, but Hansen's instrumentation is lively and upbeat. Evoking an entire spectrum of emotions, the

conflicting components come together in tunes that even come off as humorous. You may not know whether to laugh or be horrified, but you'll definitely be entertained as Hansen jovially sings numbers about drug-addicted gold diggers and failed relationships. "Hurry Up and Die" particularly embodies this spirit, as Hansen sings of wanting to stop thinking of a deceased ex-flame. He then has the gall to conclude with

an animated saxophone that sounds like it belongs on an early Bruce Springsteen record. While these songs might be perceived as a joke, the band knows exactly what they're doing as the dichotomy causes the songs to become more disturbing at their cores.

There's also a lighter side to some of the songs. "New York, New York," the album's obvious highlight, is a subtle ode to the Big Apple, and it's much better than the gaudy, ethnocentric beats that are usually reserved for songs associated with the city.

C'mon Arizona isn't as radio-friendly as *Power Leopard* and might not find the same success, but the content is much stronger on the whole. A transitional record, it's an appropriate next step for the band, showcasing the group's multi-layered talents.

fashion streeters

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY **Julianne Damer**

Annie Banks

ARTS III



GATEWAY: Describe what you're wearing.

ANNIE: This is utilitarian, I would say. I'm a cyclist, so leggings are good when you're riding a bike. Skirts are actually pretty good on bikes if you have the tights and the socks for colder weather. Everything I'm wearing is second-hand from neighbours who were having a giveaway when they moved.

GATEWAY: How do you combine utilitarian and style?

ANNIE: I have certain colours I really like, such as purple. I like different textures, and today I'm wearing plaid and silk.



Check out thegatewayonline.ca/fashionstreeters for more photos.



HEATHER RICHARDS

Irish superstitions and folk tales at forefront of *The Weir*

THEATRE PREVIEW

The Weir

WRITTEN BY ▶ Conor McPherson
DIRECTED BY ▶ Anne Marie Szucs
STARRING Justin Deveau, Gwyneth Kellii, Kieran O'Callaghan, Gavin O'Toole and Cody Porter
WHEN ▶ Runs Wednesday, Oct. 17 - Saturday, Oct. 27 at 8 p.m., matinee show Sunday, Oct. 21 at 2 p.m. No show on Monday, Oct. 22
WHERE ▶ Walterdale Playhouse (10322 83 Ave.)
HOW MUCH ▶ Starting at \$13.75 at tixonthesquare.ca

Annie Pumphrey
ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

WEIR • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
Szucs hopes this sense of a strong Irish community carries over into their production of *The Weir*. It helps that two of the cast members, Gavin O'Toole and Kieran O'Callaghan, were actually born and raised in a

different part of Ireland. Providing insights to small commonalities of the average Irish pub, O'Callaghan and O'Toole filled the director in on details like the type of glass that goes with each beer and the customary way of paying the bartender by sliding the money across the bar. Their inside knowledge of their homeland proved useful in helping the rest of the cast develop Irish mannerisms that Szucs calls "Irishisms."
But the Irish realism that Szucs is striving for comes not only from detailed characteristics, but also the historic veracity of the script. Dublin-born O'Callaghan, who plays the role of the bartender, emphasizes the importance of Irish traditions in the play.
"It's part of the way people talk and tell stories," he says. "An Irish author said once that Irish people were prisoners of the past, which is a bit of a bleak way of looking at it, but the past is very important to Irish people — where they are and where they come from."
Still, the supernatural folk tale elements in *The Weir* aren't just ghost stories meant to spook

people. O'Callaghan explains that in order to fully appreciate the play, it's necessary to understand that these stories hold a greater purpose to the Irish than simply being frightening.
"I lived in the country for a good few years, and would meet people all of the time who would explain things happening in their lives in terms of stories and beliefs," he explains
"(It's) a kind of a mindset that they had inherited down through the centuries. It's kind of mystical and mysterious, and always connected to the past."
Szucs' research trip to Ireland and the presence of O'Callaghan and O'Toole provide a great platform for the production, and add to the play's Irish authenticity. Whether or not you're a fan of ghost stories, *The Weir* offers insight into the traditions of Irish folklore and explores the bonding power of tales.
"This play unfolds in an unusual way," says O'Callaghan. "If people come with an open mind they will (not only) be entertained, (but also) hear some great stories."

the *brews* brothers

WRITTEN BY **Adrian Lahela-Chomiak and Ben Bourrie**

Oatmeal Stout

Brewery: Samuel Smith

One of the oldest breweries in England, Samuel Smith has a reputation for their solid execution of traditional beer styles with a distinctively English flavour profile. This week, I'm trying their Oatmeal Stout to see if it measures up to the competition.
Oatmeal Stout takes the rich malty goodness of dark beers and cranks it up another notch with a generous helping of oats in the grain profile. The beer pours a dark brown/black with a finger of creamy light brown head, which dissipates quickly. There's a faint smell of dark chocolate and roasted malt, but generally the aroma is fairly weak.
Up front there are some coffee and rich oat flavors, but they're dominated by the strong astringent bitterness from the dark roasted malt. The beer delivers some very powerful bitterness with the combination of hops and astringent malt, and it isn't particularly well balanced.
What doesn't help is the surprisingly thin mouth feel, which is uncharacteristic of the style. I generally expect an oatmeal stout to feel thick and heavy, but for some reason Samuel Smith's just leaves me wanting more.
Overall, the beer is still good but doesn't give me what I want out of Oatmeal Stouts. It chooses to highlight the astringent bitterness of dark roasted malts, but doesn't support it well with a rich malt body. Since I personally like a more full bodied beer, I'm giving Samuel Smith's Oatmeal Stout a 7/10.



De Molen Lentehop

Brewery: Brouwerij de Molen

After having this beer recommended to me by a trusted source on a recent beer trip, I decided to take a chance and try it out.
De Molen Lentehop pours a golden yellow colour with a mammoth fluffy four-finger head. The head sticks around for the duration of the beer and clings to the glass, leaving great lacing.
The nose is full of fresh, ripe tropical fruits, with the fruity sweetness of passion-fruit, papaya and tangerine dominating for the most part and a slight astringency playing out subtly in the background. The taste is slightly bitter up front, but thankfully not overpowering. It transitions nicely to the same fruit taste I could smell in the nose, though it's slightly toned down in terms of sweetness. This plays well with the early bitterness, creating a well-rounded palate even though there isn't really any major malt presence in the beer.
The beer has a nice light to medium mouth feel, which is supported by the yeast from bottle conditioning and a medium carbonation that goes well with the style.
This is a great example of an American pale ale, and there's a nice balance between the bitterness and the tropical hop flavours that can be hard to find in this particular group of beers. Definitely worth the investment, I give it an 8/10.



campusbites

COMPILED BY **Alex Migdal, Katherine Speur and Alana Willerton**

MARCO'S FAMOUS

Burgers - Donairs - Salads - Pitas ...



Marco's Famous

Every week, three writers with iron stomachs will sample food on campus. This week, they tackled Marco's Famous in SUB.

Canadian Burger - \$6 - Alex Migdal

I've always been a bit wary of Marco's Famous. It might have something to do with their aggressive neon sign or sketchy menu that looks like it was designed on Windows 98. In any case, it's safe to say you can't judge a book by a cover with this joint, as Marco's Famous serves the best burger on campus hands down.
Opting for the Canadian selection, I was treated to a juicy, savory burger topped with an assortment of fresh toppings. The slice of ham added an extra kick, while the red sauce was the perfect complement to this beef masterpiece. It was certainly a welcome surprise given the establishment's outdated décor. Marco's Famous is in fact a rarity on campus — tasty, well-made food that's a much-needed departure from its fast food counterparts.

Cheese Donair with drink - \$9 - Katherine Speur

While Marco's may not be everyone's first choice to eat at in SUB, it was surprisingly satisfying. Donairs are usually reserved for drunken nights, but I figured I might as well go for it anyways. My choice, the cheese donair, was filled with plenty of crisp lettuce, fresh meat and a creamy sauce. The end of the wrap wasn't particularly appetizing though, as the sheer amount of meat and sauce that collected at the bottom wasn't pretty.
Overall, I was pleased with the meal, but I definitely fell into a food coma about an hour after digesting it. A word of advice: don't eat here unless you're okay with not being productive afterwards.

Chicken Pita - \$7.75 - Alana Willerton

Despite practically living in SUB, I've never ventured over to try out Marco's Famous, often opting for the traditional Subway sandwich instead. But after testing Marco's deliciously filling chicken pita, I have become a convert.
The service at Marco's Famous was very quick, and the overall presentation of the pita I ordered was neat. All the vegetable toppings were fresh and tasty, and the generous helping of a creamy sauce added a dash of flavour that the chicken needed. On the whole, Marco's Famous was a pleasant surprise, making a returning customer out of me.

Seven Psychopaths triumphs with comical cast of crazed characters

FILM REVIEW

Seven Psychopaths

WRITTEN BY > Martin McDonagh
DIRECTED BY > Martin McDonagh
STARRING > Colin Farrell, Woody Harrelson and Sam Rockwell
WHEN > Now playing

Jennifer Polack
ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

You know you're in for a wild movie experience when the film's so-called "normal" character is a raging alcoholic writing a screenplay about seven notorious psychopathic serial killers. This is especially true when the seven psychopath characters in the screenplay are inspired by the writer's personal reality. Throw in a final shootout in the desert, a former Bond girl and an assortment of canines, and you've got a movie that defines true entertainment.

On the surface, *Seven Psychopaths* is a comedy about struggling writer Marty (Colin Farrell), who's in the process of crafting a screenplay with his two friends, Billy (Sam Rockwell) and Hans (Christopher Walken). Billy and Hans are in the dog kidnapping business — they kidnap a dog for a few days, return it to their distraught owners and collect the reward money. But their plans go awry when they accidentally kidnap a Shih Tzu named Bonny, who happens to belong to Charlie (Woody Harrelson), a vindictive and emotionally unstable gangster.

Seven Psychopaths was destined to be a good film from the second Martin McDonagh signed on to write and direct it. McDonagh has polished his style since his work on *In Bruges*, and adds several layers to the plot this time



around. The combination of his unusual but effective humour and Tarantino-esque dialogue makes the movie consistently fast-paced and amusing, and the amount of character development accomplished in 109 minutes is also astounding, with connecting storylines for each psychopath.

While the script is well written, it wouldn't have been remotely as successful if cast members Farrell, Walken and Rockwell weren't at their cinematic best. Farrell's performance is incredibly genuine, Rockwell has rarely been more hilarious and Walken somehow manages to inspire sympathy and laughter in the same breath. Harrelson's performance as Charlie is also exceptionally convincing — it's no small feat to make a gangster who blubbers over the loss of his Shih Tzu still seem extremely tough.

Amidst the humour, the shameless use of

gore in *Seven Psychopaths* makes for some of the film's more uncomfortable moments — be prepared to see litres of blood and an almost unseemly amount of murders. But with a title like *Seven Psychopaths*, it's not a stretch to expect just as much gore as seven crazy people can produce — which, as it turns out, is quite a lot. But if the thought of watching a person's head get sawed off isn't your idea of a good time, bypassing this particular cinematic adventure in favour of something a little more vanilla is likely your best option.

Seven Psychopaths is a film that's funny, smart and action-packed. McDonagh's inspired script and direction allows the all-star cast to explode into a pseudo-reality where dog-napping sounds like a legitimate business venture and everyone you know is completely insane. It's rare to find a movie so simultaneously inspiring, entertaining and exciting.

flop culture

COMPILED BY **Kate Black**

50 Shades of Grey Halloween Costumes

The cringe-worthy *50 Shades of Grey* series is once again rearing its ugly head. Just when you thought the curiously popular erotic novels couldn't get more ridiculous, the series is returning to the pop culture mainstream in the awful form of Halloween costumes.

A quick perusal through Pinterest and pop culture blogs leads to the discovery of a horrifying number of *50 Shades of Grey*-inspired costumes, labelled as the most popular couples costume for the 2012 Halloween season. The costumes range from frumpy pencil skirt and sweater ensembles for those impersonating the socially awkward main character Ana Steele, and suit and tie outfits for the men dressing up as her lusty lover Christian Grey. For the more adventurous types, there are costumes consisting of nothing but lacy lingerie and S&M toys, inspired by the couple's adventures in the "Red Room of Pain."

The thing is, these costumes are neither creative nor practical. If you show up at the club with an armful of whips and chains, you'll probably be sent home faster than you can say mommy porn. On the other hand, if you go to any social event under the guise of Ana Steele, you'll just be remembered as the weird girl in the cardigan who wouldn't stop biting her lip and talking about her inner goddess.

For the love of all that is good, the marketing of this book needs to stop. It's time for Ana Steele and Christian Grey to be banished to the Red Room of Flop Culture, and to say "Later babe" to all things *50 Shades of Grey* for good.

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Aidan Knight steals away from city to create sophomore album

MUSIC PREVIEW

Aidan Knight

WITH > Friendly Friends
WHEN > Friday, Oct. 19 at 8 p.m.
WHERE > Avenue Theatre
(9030 118 Ave.)
HOW MUCH > \$15 at yeglive.ca

Taylor Evans

ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

Fear of the all-too-common sophomore slump is natural for any artist facing the release of their second album. But rest assured that Victoria, BC native Aidan Knight has nothing to fear. With the first single of his new album *Small Reveal* already released, it seems Knight is on the right track to pleasing his listeners once again with the same stunning lyrics and melodic cacophonies of instrumentals.

While his debut album *Versicolour* was deemed a success by many early on, Knight continues to try to push the envelope with his experimental folk sound on *Small Reveal*.

"I think there's a part of me that always wants to make something better than the last thing I made — I don't

think there's a point in saying, 'That's the best thing you're going to make,' and I don't think there's a point in making something that's just as good," Knight says.

While his new album's success is by no means guaranteed, if one thing's for certain, it's that *Small Reveal* will be very different. This time around, the writing process itself changed for Knight. Following in the footsteps of Grammy winner Bon Iver, Knight wrote and composed much of *Small Reveal* in a quaint cabin, away from all the distractions of the city.

"The process for writing these songs on *Small Reveal* was a lot different than anything I had done before, mostly in terms of the location," Knight explained. "I've never done the rustic (setting). I guess you could call it like a romantic, Bon Iver setting because I think that's what people think when they think about cabins now."

The cabin, located on a remote island near Nanaimo, BC, was where Knight wrote and recorded much of the album with the help of friends and bandmates. Allowing others to get in on his creative process was a new experience for Knight, who's used to doing most of the work himself.

"When I first started out, I think

that I thought I was going to be doing everything by myself. Aidan Knight the name and the music was going to be just one person," Knight muses. "Somewhere along the way, I think I realized that music is very communal for me and that I wanted to start playing with people and stop being so creatively lonely."

But while Knight worked intensively with the group on the musical composition for *Small Reveal*, he insisted that he remain the primary lyricist.

"Lyrics are still a more lonely process, the music a little bit more shared," he explains. "I remember just listening to all the songs and realizing we had made this really personal album — this idea of looking into all the thoughts of what it is to be a creative person, what it is to be a song writer."

Just like with *Versicolour*, Knight hopes to look back on *Small Reveal* down the road and find "that it was a true — if nothing else, a true statement of that time."

"You can look back in retrospect and realize the scope of what you're able to say and what you're able to do," he says. "That's probably true with everything in life; there's so much to learn, so much left to do."



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Sports meetings Thursdays at 4 p.m. in 3-04 SUB. C'mon by!

U of A Upcoming Schedule



Pandas Rugby



CanWest Semi-Finals
Friday, Oct. 19
vs. UBC
11 a.m.

Canada West Championships
Sunday Oct. 14
Bronze Medal 11 a.m.
Gold Medal 1 p.m.

Golden Bears Hockey



Friday, Oct. 19
@ Saskatchewan
7 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 20
@ Saskatchewan
2 p.m.

Pandas Hockey



Friday, Oct. 19
vs. Saskatchewan
7 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 20
vs. Saskatchewan
6 p.m.

Golden Bears Soccer



Saturday, Oct. 20
@ Lethbridge
2 p.m.



Sunday, Oct. 21
@ Lethbridge
2 p.m.

Pandas Soccer



Saturday, Oct. 20
vs. Winnipeg
2 p.m.



Sunday, Oct. 21
vs. Manitoba
2 p.m.

Golden Bears Football



Saturday, Oct. 20
vs. Saskatchewan
1 p.m.

U of A Golf

University of Victoria Shootout
Saturday, Oct. 20
@ University of Victoria
9 a.m.



TIANBO LIU

CIS hockey rivals face off in two provinces

HOCKEY PREVIEW

Brendan Curley

SPORTS STAFF ■ @B_CURLEY

This weekend the Golden Bears and Pandas hockey teams will both challenge the rival University of Saskatchewan Huskies — the Pandas on home ice and the Bears on the road.

U of A hockey started hot this season, with both teams tied for first place in their respective conferences. The Pandas are undefeated at 4-0-0, while the Bears dropped to 3-1-0 after Saturday's 2-1 loss to the Mount Royal Cougars. Bears head coach Ian Herbers believes the key to a successful road trip relies on addressing the weaknesses evident after the team's first loss of the season.

"We didn't have enough commitment around the net. We had a number of great chances, but we didn't capitalize and that cost us the game," Herbers said. "We will need to get more traffic in front of the net. We need to find ways to deflect and

screen, and we need to hop on our rebounds for those second and third opportunities."

Friday's game marks the second time the Bears and Huskies will meet since Saskatchewan eliminated Alberta in last year's Canada West semi-finals. Despite last season's early exit, Herbers expressed confidence his team has put the past behind them.

"Last year was last year. This is a new year," Herbers said. "We know there are teams that are always looking to play their best against us to knock us off. We need to play our game and dictate the play."

While the Bears will be aiming to regroup, the Pandas will instead be looking to keep their record unblemished as they face Saskatchewan's women's team at Clare Drake Arena. Pandas head coach Howie Draper has been pleased by his team's play, but doesn't want the players getting ahead of themselves.

"We feel that if we play our game we have the ability to beat any team in the league," Pandas head coach

Howie Draper said.

"Of course we're confident, but it's a quiet confidence. The team realizes we have a long way to go in terms of development before we reach our full potential."

Through four games this season, the Pandas have outscored their opposition 13-6 and Friday's 4-3 win over MRU marked the only time this year the Pandas have allowed more than one goal against.

Despite this, Draper still feels Alberta needs to play better defensively, and attributes the team's ability to keep the puck out of their net to the stellar work he's seen in the Pandas' crease from starting goaltender Michala Jeffries.

For their part, the Bears won a pre-season meeting against the Huskies 2-1 in a shootout, but since then, Saskatchewan's men's team has compiled an uncharacteristically mediocre 1-2-1 record. This only adds fuel to the fire for a squad that went 16-6-2 before winning a CanWest championship last season and is

projected to be a contender along with the Bears for another championship this season.

The U of S women's hockey team, like their male counterpart, has experienced a slow start this season and sit tied for sixth place in CanWest with a record of 1-2-1. But just like the Bears, the Pandas know they cannot take the Huskies lightly.

"Saskatchewan is a hard-working team. We have to be prepared to set the tempo and outwork them. They are a very offensive team; they get a lot of shots," Draper said.

"The thing about our conference right now is that any team can beat any team on any given night. The parity in the conference is greater than it has ever been."

With the University of Alberta and University of Saskatchewan football teams also playing this Saturday, this weekend is shaping up to be one of the biggest university sport rivalry weekends for two of the most athletically celebrated schools in western Canada.

Soccer Pandas playoff hunt heats up in final weekend

SOCCER PREVIEW

Bears vs. Wesmen, Bisons

Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 20-21
2 p.m.

Foote Field

Andrew Jeffrey

SPORTS EDITOR ■ @ANDREW_JEFFREY

The Pandas soccer squad saw their undefeated record finally come to an end this past weekend as a pair of losses left them still without a clinched playoff spot.

After going their first eight games of the season without a loss, the Pandas dropped two games on a Saskatchewan road trip, with a 3-1 loss to the University of Saskatchewan and a close 1-0 shutout defeat at the hands of the University of Regina.

The two losses left the team with a 5-2-3 record, putting them in seventh place in the Canada West conference.

With eight teams qualifying for the postseason, the team is still in possession of a playoff spot, but are

still in danger of falling out of contention.

"We just need to take care of what's first at hand. We need six points to secure berth in playoffs, number one. Number two, at this stage we've played all opponents, and wherever we land we'll just prepare for that opponent," Pandas head coach Liz Jepsen said.

"Unfortunately, not taking the six points on the weekend leaves us a bit in the hands of what everybody else does."

This being the last weekend of their season, the Pandas need a strong performance to stay in the playoff race. While their final game of the season will be against the 1-8-1 University of Winnipeg Wesmen, on Saturday the team will play the University of Manitoba Bisons who sit one spot behind Alberta in the standings and could be prepped to vault past the Pandas with a strong weekend.

"It's crucial that the Pandas understand the importance of this and bring their A-game with 100 per cent focus on defence and 100 per cent focus on attack," Jepsen said.

Jepsen attributed the team's two losses over the weekend to the Pandas' trouble capitalizing on scoring chances.

Against Regina, the Pandas had a 24-8 advantage in shot attempts, the team had trouble finding the back of the net.

"We hit a number of posts and missed good chances. If you want to be the best in this league, that's just not going to be possible. It's not good enough," Jepsen said.

"I know the likes of Carleigh Miller has been scoring for us and Kayla Michaels has done that. We now actually have Amanda Black who is a fifth-year striker who's been out since we played Calgary where she got injured. She's back in the mix, so hopefully she'll be able to add in her scoring prowess as well."

Even one win this weekend will clinch a playoff spot for the Pandas, while two wins could put them as high as third place.

But if Manitoba and Calgary both win two games this weekend, coupled with two Alberta losses, the team will be on the outside looking in this postseason.

2012 CanWest playoff standings

Team	Record	Points
1) Trinity Western University Spartans	9-1-0	27
2) University of Victoria Vikes	8-1-1	25
3) UBC Thunderbirds	7-1-2	23
4) University of Regina Cougars	7-3-0	21
5) UFR Cascades	6-3-1	19
6) University of Saskatchewan Huskies	6-4-0	18
7) University of Alberta Pandas	5-2-3	18
8) University of Manitoba Bisons	4-6-0	12
9) University of Calgary Dinos	3-4-3	12

Morris follows in family footsteps

FOOTBALL PROFILE

Andrew Jeffrey
SPORTS EDITOR • @ANDREW_JEFFREY

Despite his family's history with the University of Alberta's football program, fourth-year linebacker Duncan Morris didn't always expect to end up there.

Morris's father, Dave, played for the Bears and was part of the last Alberta team to win a Vanier Cup in 1980. Meanwhile, Duncan's grandfather, Frank Morris, played 14 seasons in the CFL in Toronto and Edmonton, winning three Grey Cups as a player and one as a coach in Edmonton. However, despite being a fan of the sport himself, Morris was never involved in football until high school.

Instead Morris played hockey, basketball and rugby for a number of years. This experience has set Morris apart from some of his competitors who played football from a younger age, notably improving his aggressiveness through rugby.

"Rugby's a lot different where you don't have any pads on. It's easy to be aggressive in football because you don't really feel anything, but in rugby, you've got to be aggressive all the time," Morris said. "That usually means you're in contact and you're sore and you're in pain a little bit, but I think that mentality translates to the football field."

When he was recruited to come to the Bears, choosing the U of A wasn't a hard decision considering the history of the team and the group of friends he'd developed growing up in Edmonton. The bigger decision was choosing to play CIS football right out of high school rather than playing junior football for the local Wildcats or Huskies club teams.



MORTAZAVI HOSSEN

"Looking back, it didn't really matter — I could have gone and played for the Huskies or Wildcats and went to school after. The thing I kind of missed out on by not playing junior is that you get to play right away. I didn't play at all my first year and it ended up hurting my experience, because after my first year, I decided not to play the next year," Morris said.

Morris returned to the CIS a year later and has played three years since then. While the success his team has had since returning isn't the same as the Vanier Cup-winning team his father played for, Morris knows it isn't productive to compare the success of his time at the U of A against his family's.

"It's always difficult to be on a team like that, especially when you're an older guy. There's a lot of kids out

there that can look and say they don't have a big problem with rebuilding so much time left in the program to wait on it," Morris said. "But I don't compare myself and think my time was a failure because I didn't win a Vanier Cup. I try to set an example for the younger guys and hopefully help the program in the future."

As for where he'll go after he finishes his final year of eligibility next season, Morris isn't sure whether he'll continue with the football like his grandfather did before him.

"I'm not sure how much football I'll have left after I'm done at the U of A," Morris said. "I've thought about playing professional, but we'll see how that works out. I'm just excited to graduate and see what happens after football. I'm just excited for the rest of life to happen."

Bears looking to future after Saturday's sendoff for seniors

FOOTBALL PREVIEW

Bears vs. Huskies

Saturday, Oct. 20 at 1 p.m.
Foote Field

Ryan Stephens
SPORTS STAFF • @STEPHENSJRYAN

In a rematch of their season opener against the University of Saskatchewan Huskies, the Golden Bears football squad is using this Saturday's game to assess the growth of their young team over the course of an unsatisfying season.

After being held off the board in a 32-0 shutout against the Huskies, it appeared that this was going to be a tough year for the Bears, fraught with growing pains. While the weekly bludgeoning and winless record indicate the team's development has only moved laterally, head coach Jeff Stead argues certain areas have seen noticeable improvement.

"I think the biggest growth we've seen is with some of our young offensive linemen," he said, honing in on the play of sophomore running back Tyler Lewis. He also mentioned quarterback Curtis Dell, who won the starting gig after two seasons on the sidelines only to be shut out in his first start.

"In that first game ... our offensive line was still learning and it was their first action. They were a little uncomfortable with some of the protections and run schemes."

Looking at their offensive output throughout the season, it's no question that Dell and his offence quickly matured into their role, building up

to a relatively narrow loss against the University of Manitoba Bisons. In that game, the Bears offence rallied for 38 points, although Manitoba marched for 53 points through a porous Alberta defense.

After a strong start from his veteran defence, Stead feels the team dropped off after the season's first two games, which is unfortunate given the Bears' sudden surge of offence.

"The defence just needs to play more basic and more physical, fast football," he said. "I think that we got a little bit too exotic there, and I think that some of the guys got caught up in the nuances of the schemes instead of just going out there, reacting and playing football."

Heading into the season's penultimate game, there's no question some aspects of the Bears' game have grown steadily since the season's start. How much that growth will manifest itself in points on the scoreboard remains to be seen, but the offence will have a chance to prove themselves against a struggling Huskies team.

"It's a big game. (The Huskies) are not doing very good this year," Stead admitted. "It's another good battle to see where our young kids will fit in for the off-season and next year."

Through the team's ups and downs, there's a light at the end of the tunnel. This weekend's matchup will be 'seniors night,' honouring the fifth-years coming to the end of their eligibility. It's a fitting theme: after years of struggle, a Bears victory could prove they're truly saying goodbye to their past and hoping to ring in a bright new future for this young team.



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GRIFF CORNWALL

Pandas top seed in CanWest rugby

U of A enters conference playoffs as the first seed with undefeated record of 4-0

RUGBY PREVIEW

CanWest Rugby Championships

Oct. 19-21 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.
Ellerslie Rugby Club

Andrew Jeffrey

SPORTS EDITOR • @ANDREW_JEFFREY

The U of A's rugby squad is riding high into playoffs this weekend as a pair of wins over the weekend gave them a perfect 4-0 record for the season and the number one playoff seed.

The Pandas defeated the University of Calgary Dinos on Friday 46-24, but their big win came two days later when they overcame the six-time defending Canada West champions, the University of Lethbridge Pronghorns with a 38-19 win. This was a huge game for many senior Pandas players who had never defeated the 'Horns in their first three, four or five years at the U of A.

"For the two captains, Carmen Hobbs who's in her fifth year of eligibility and Ally Fairbender who's in her fourth, they had never beaten Lethbridge, so I think that was a big relief for them, and obviously that was one of their main goals this year," Pandas head coach Matt Parrish said. "I think there was an immediate cheer of relief, but with this group, they're already looking ahead to this weekend."

The Pandas' success this season can in part be attributed back to their loss to Lethbridge in the CanWest championships last season when they were shut out 41-0. After that game, both players and the Pandas' coaching staff knew something needed to change to compete

with the powerhouse Lethbridge had become over the past six years.

"We started preparation earlier, we were very fortunate to get some really good rookies this year. We got a bit more support from athletics financially as far as helping us out with scholarships and a new assistant coach, Jo Hull, who helped us get a fresh perspective from an outside point of view," Parrish said on the changes the team made between seasons.

"Sometimes as coaches, you want to plan all the way through and start thinking about nationals. You come in undefeated, the number one team, but it really is that cliché of taking it one game at a time and trying to just get better every time."

MATT PARRISH
PANDAS RUGBY COACH

"It was more of a focus on what we needed to do, and that combined with Lethbridge's turnover time for their program was a bit of a perfect storm for us."

After spending all four games of their season on the road, the Pandas will finally be able to play in front of a home crowd when they host the Canada West conference playoffs this weekend. In Friday's semi-finals, the Pandas will take on the UBC Thunderbirds, a team that's never beaten them. Despite this statistic, Parrish hopes his players

will be able to rein in any feelings of overconfidence.

"Sometimes as coaches, you want to plan all the way through and start thinking about nationals. You come in undefeated, the number one team, but it really is that cliché of taking it one game at a time and trying to just get better every time," Parrish said. "We were 50-odd points above UBC and they'll have to play a really great game to beat us on Friday, but it has been known to happen."

Parrish sees the Pandas' depth as their biggest strength going into this weekend. While he admits the team lacks star standout performers, he doesn't see any major holes on a team that's been able to stay healthy all season.

Should the Pandas defeat UBC, Alberta will need this depth to help them against whoever wins in the other CanWest semi-final between their two physical and strong provincial rivals. After seeing both teams this weekend, Parrish recognizes both teams pose a threat.

"Calgary definitely has some very big, fast, strong running backs, and especially their big two centers are 5'10" and that definitely seems like their game plan to win the ball and send it those guys. They were very strong runners and it took a lot to get them down — that's definitely where their strength is," Parrish said.

"I felt that Lethbridge's forwards were fairly big and physical, and they took it to us in the scrum in that contact area. That was our big weakness this weekend — Lethbridge's scrum pushed us around."

But with a crowd at Ellerslie Rugby Club that will be cheering for the Pandas for the first time this season, the Pandas will have the rare home-field advantage for their biggest games yet.

Lockout could be good for development of young Oilers



Cameron Lewis
SPORTS COMMENTARY

With Gary Bettman’s blusterous band of billionaires and the Players Association with the devastating Donald Fehr locked in a passive aggressive battle over pocket change, fans of the Edmonton Oilers are left wondering how they’ll survive the impending doom that is the NHL lockout.

During the last lockout in 2004-05, we were graced by the uprising of poker on sports TV and occasional slow-moving afternoon games between Finnish Elite League teams who boasted a lineup of washed up NHL grinders, highly drafted anonymous European busts and the occasional NHL household name. This was a painful time for Edmontonian hockey fans, and unfortunately it looks like we’re headed back in time to those dark days, making for another long, boring winter.

Some of us may jump on an NFL team’s bandwagon, while other poor souls may end up following the NBA for a season. All in all, this winter will be painful, but fans shouldn’t fear — the lack of NHL hockey could end up being just what the young Oilers need.

Since we’ve all become so accustomed with “be patient,” “next year” and of course “HOPE,” this season won’t be much different from any

other in recent memory. With talent oozing out of the pipeline, the key to long-term success in Oil Country is strong development.

While the core players of most other NHL teams have scattered all over the globe looking for places to lace up their skates this season, the Oilers’ nucleus of young stars will stick together, joining the Oilers farm team in Oklahoma City. The OKC Oil Barons are poised to enter the season as easily the best team on paper. The Oilers’ “Big 3” Taylor Hall, Jordan Eberle and Ryan Nugent-Hopkins along with top defensive prospects Martin Marincin and Justin Schultz join an already strong team that made it to the AHL Western Conference Finals last season. Middling prospects such as Magnus Paajarvi, Tyler Pitlick and Teemu Hartkainen will all be given chances to play alongside their stronger teammates to hopefully develop some chemistry we’ll be seeing sooner rather than later with the Oilers.

The Oilers prospect train doesn’t just stop in Oklahoma City. 2012 first overall pick Nail Yakupov and 2011 first rounder Oscar Klefbom will both be given an extra year of seasoning in their respective professional European leagues without burning a year off their entry level contracts.

Speaking of contracts, the Oilers will shed one year of Shawn Horcoff’s albatross \$5.5-million a year deal, meaning he’ll open the 2013-14 season with just one year left until he hits free agency. By the beginning of next season, the contracts owed to Ryan Whitney, Nikolai Khabibu-



SUPPLIED

lin and Sheldon Souray (buyout) will all be off the books, giving the Oilers around eight million dollars to spend over the offseason on either free agents or possibly a Ryan Nugent-Hopkins contract extension.

The Oilers came out of the last lockout with a bang, sprinting all the way

to game seven of the 2006 Stanley Cup Finals only to be stopped by the Carolina Hurricanes. The team’s situation coming out of this lockout mirrors the last in that the team has increased cap flexibility, and a plethora of young players who will all play together with Edmonton’s minor league affiliate,

just as they did in 2003-04.

If this lockout manages to absorb the entire season this winter, fear not — it could be exactly what the up and coming Oilers need to push them to the promised land. During those boring, dark winter nights, remember: short term pain, long term gain.

sports shorts

COMPILED BY **Andrew Jeffrey**

UVic Golf Shootout

The final event of the U of A’s fall golf season will take place at 9 a.m. this Saturday in Victoria.

The University of Victoria shootout will see the U of A play its toughest competition yet, going up against their usual competition from western CIS schools, as well as new competition from stronger NAIA schools.

With this being the end of the U of A’s golf year, they’re looking ahead

to 2013 when they’ll be taking part in the national championships in May.

“We’ve got a veteran lineup on our men’s side — we only lost one guy from our best results ever at nationals ever from our team,” U of A golf coach Robin Stewart said. “We’re going to have our entire roster here for this tournament on our men’s side, which we haven’t had all year.”

Going into the tournament, the Pandas have been strong competitors, winning four tournaments over their usual CIS opponents — but they’ll be facing new competition for the first time this season. The Bears, meanwhile, are coming

off a disappointing finish at the Prairie championships, but will have a full roster for the first time this year in Victoria with the return of Mike Stepanuk, whose school commitments prevented him from playing in any event since the first of the year.

“He started off well in the first tournament of the year, so it’s tough not having him there,” Stewart said. “We have a few younger guys who have stepped in for him and it’s good experience for them. In the long run it will benefit us, but in the meantime it may have hurt us.”

With Stepanuk’s return, the Bears will be looking to end 2012 on a high note in preparation for nationals.

National Ranking Changes

The national rankings were released on Tuesday for each CIS sport, and the University of Alberta saw a notable bump in a number of areas.

The Golden Bears hockey team improved to the number one national spot due to their first place position in the Canada West conference. The Bears soccer squad also improved, moving to third place in the CIS rankings after a win and a tie over the weekend clinched a playoff spot for the team and kept them in first place of the prairie division.

Meanwhile, in the debut rankings of CIS men’s volleyball, the

Bears volleyball team were placed at the number two position off the strength of a third-place conference finish last season and a berth in nationals, while the Pandas team debuted at number three after winning a conference championship last season and a national silver medal.

The biggest gains were made by Pandas rugby, jumping three spots to a fourth-place national ranking.

Third-year scrum-half Chelsea Guthrie was also named the Canada West female athlete of the week after leading Alberta with four tries in a pair of wins last weekend against provincial rivals from Lethbridge and Calgary.



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PANDAS

PANDAS HOCKEY

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Saturday, Oct 20 - 6:00 pm - Pandas vs Saskatchewan

PANDAS RUGBY

Friday, Oct 19 - 11:00 am & 1:00 pm - Canada West Semi Finals
Sunday, Oct 21 - 11:00 am & 1:00 pm - Canada West Finals

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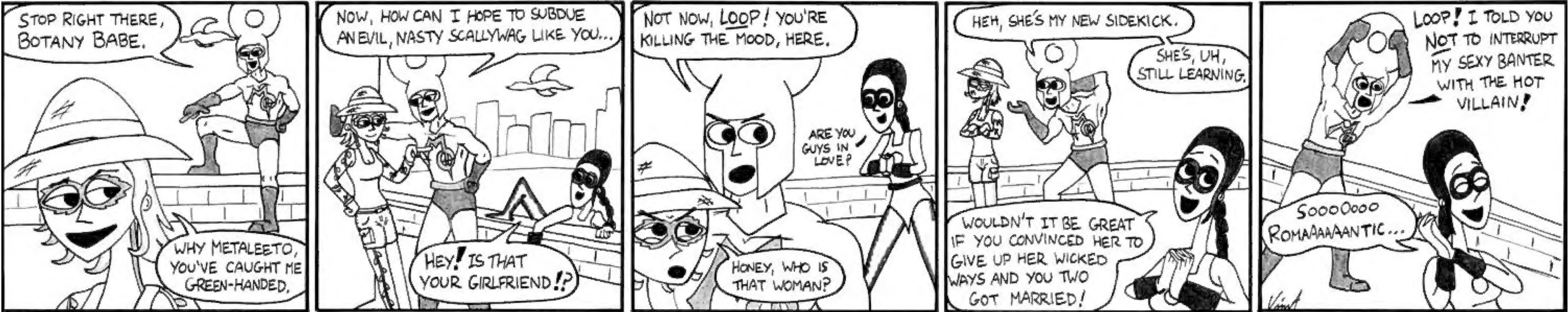
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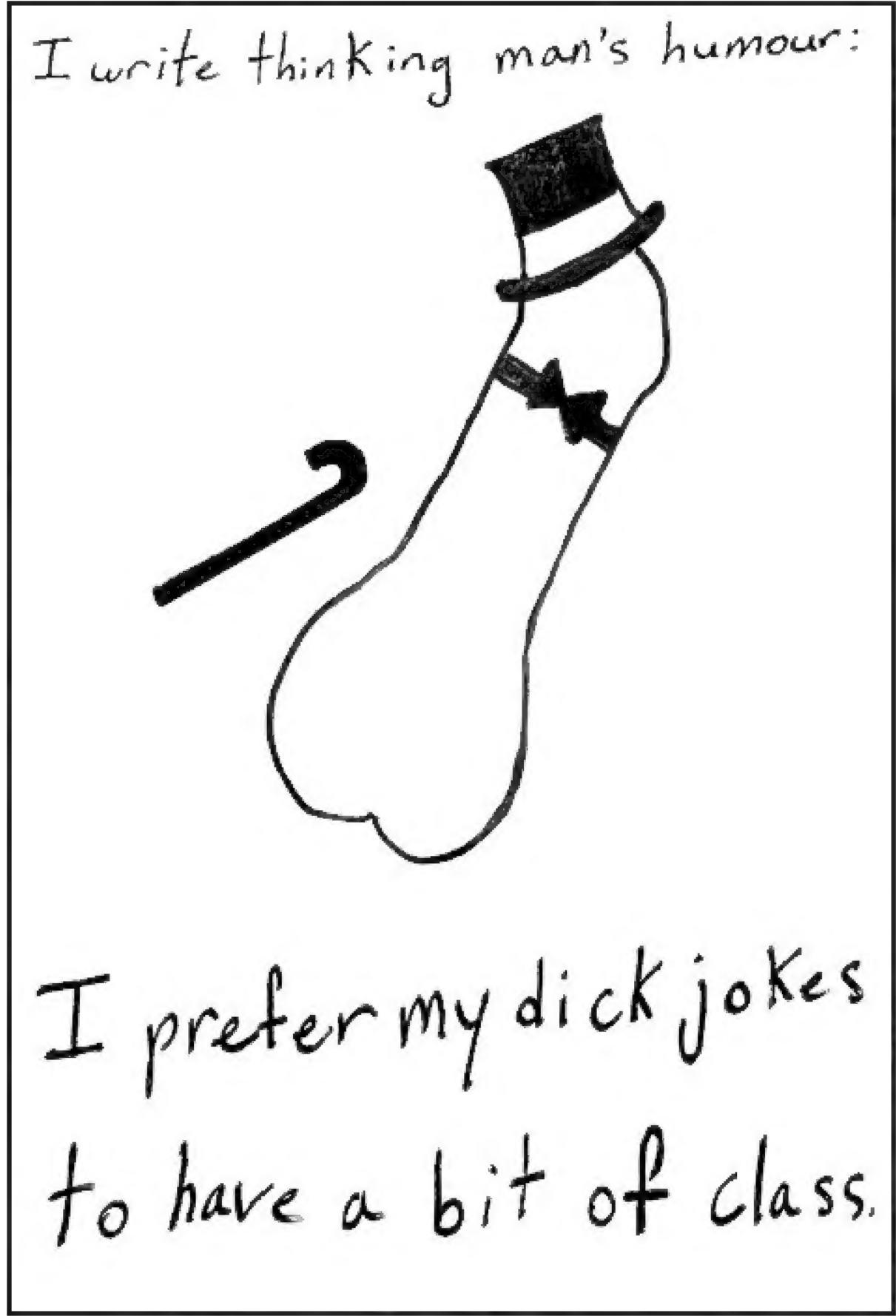
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I AM NOT A LUNGFISH by Jessica Pigeau



crossword

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Across

- 1. Acclaim
- 6. ___ well...
- 10. ___ avis
- 14. Olds model
- 15. Coil
- 16. Not much
- 17. Extent
- 18. Art Deco designer
- 19. E-mail command
- 20. Ashtabula's lake
- 21. Office of a bishop
- 23. Pedantic
- 25. Shudder
- 26. Ref's decision
- 27. Gave a hoot
- 29. Eagle's home
- 32. Descendant of Cain
- 33. Fish eggs
- 36. ___ -a-brac
- 37. Christmas song
- 38. Voting-pattern predictor
- 39. Actress Merkel
- 40. Brief appearance
- 41. Small change
- 42. Head lock
- 43. Flight formation
- 44. Refrain
- 47. Cloths
- 51. Entertainment
- 54. Burn the midnight oil, studying

- 55. The King ___
- 56. Tabula ___
- 57. Jewelled crown worn by women
- 58. Worry
- 59. K-6
- 60. Computer key
- 61. Sardine containers
- 62. ___ -deucey
- 63. Discharge

Down

- 1. Having auricular protuberances
- 2. Mild cigar
- 3. Russian revolutionary leader
- 4. Containing divalent silver
- 5. Digit of the foot
- 6. Beth preceder
- 7. Actress Petty
- 8. A great deal
- 9. Ghostly
- 10. Uttered gratingly
- 11. First-stringers
- 12. Cost
- 13. European viper
- 21. That, in Tijuana
- 22. Hurler Hershiser
- 24. Tina's ex
- 27. Heals
- 28. Peek follower
- 29. "Aladdin" monkey
- 30. Directional ending
- 31. Narrow inlet
- 32. Packs tight
- 33. CD- ___

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- 34. Cheer for Manolete
- 35. Golfer Ernie
- 37. Roman capital of Palestine
- 38. ShriII
- 40. Essence
- 41. Ball belle

- 42. Characteristics
- 43. Covered vehicle
- 44. Skill
- 45. Artist Rousseau
- 46. Ancient
- 47. Frothy

- 48. Angry
- 49. Feels for
- 50. Stylish
- 52. Apply powder to oneself
- 53. Aha!
- 57. Driver's aid

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CHANEL NO. 5

The Ferarri of smells.

askDr. Donna

WRITTEN BY Dr. Donna Cave



Dear Dr. Donna: I hear a lot about STIs, and I believe it is important to practice safe sex and get tested, but I was wondering if you could tell me the relative rates of STIs in the Edmonton area.

Dear Pondering Probabilities: I am so glad you asked this question as I had a plethora of patients this week who appear to believe magical thinking is a form of both contraception and STI protection. The only place this might work is Hogwarts, and even then Engorgio, Erecto, and Duro seem to be the only sex-related spells, unless you count Avada Kedavra. It is likely, therefore, that when Gryffindor and Slytherin seniors beat more than bludgers, even Hogwarts students use condoms.

I can tell you not just about Edmonton, but also about the U of A.

The risk of picking up an STI definitely depends on where you live. Southern Alberta has lower rates than Northern Alberta. Calgary has lower rates than Edmonton. Chlamydia is hands down the biggest reportable STI in the province. Calgary rates are 0.3 per cent, Edmonton 0.4 per cent, the North zone 0.5 per cent, and U of A 0.9 per cent. Gonorrhea rates in the province reflect a similar trend: Calgary reports 0.02 per cent, Edmonton 0.06 per cent, the North zone 0.07 per cent and U of A 0.3 per cent. Syphilis case rates average 0.0025 per cent across the province, which is finally decreasing after a peak of 0.0075 per cent in 2009; however, the majority of 2011 male cases occurred in the Edmonton zone, and University of Alberta Health Centre physicians diagnosed several. We win the Quidditch Cup!

Other U of A stats show new diagnoses in 2010/11 of genital herpes in 0.6 per cent of sexually active students, genital warts or other HPV disease in 0.9 per cent, Hepatitis B or C in 0.4 per cent, and HIV in 0.4 per cent. STIs

derailed academics for 1.4 per cent of U of A students to the point where they received a lower grade in an exam or a course. Despite that, only 52.4 per cent of students reported using a condom for vaginal intercourse, 30.1 per cent for anal intercourse, and 4.2 per cent for oral sex. Only 73 per cent of students are vaccinated for Hepatitis B, and only 12 per cent are vaccinated against HPV. Alcohol definitely plays a part as 10.1 per cent of students reported unprotected sex as a consequence of drinking, so don't consume so much butterbeer that you lose control and make a bad decision. It's a lottery game, but here's a sobering fact: my hubby, Dr. Dean, had a patient who got both HIV and pregnant on her first and only sexual experience at the age of 16.

One last point to ponder: If there are magic spells for so many things, how come Harry Potter still wears glasses?

Dear Reader: ask me more! Send me your health and wellness conundrums and questions to askdrdonna@gateway.ualberta.ca or click the link to Ask Dr Donna at thegatewayonline.ca!

sudoku

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